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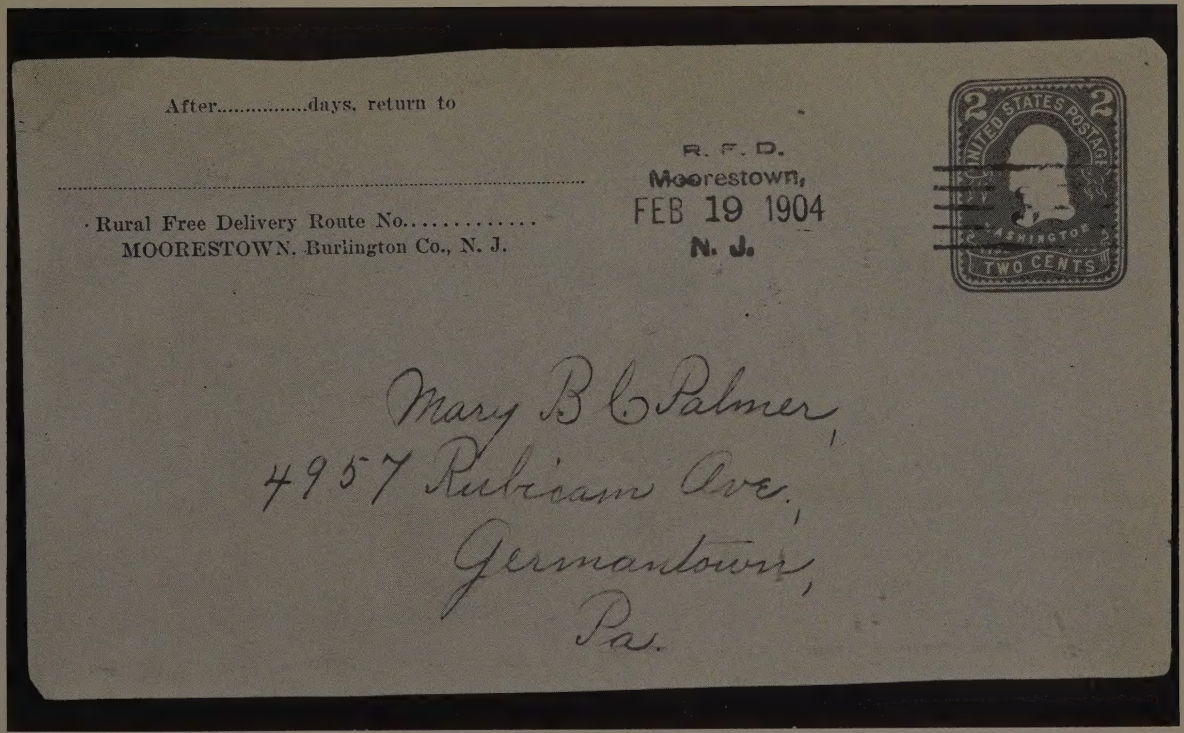

RURAL FREE DELIVERY: An early RFD cover of Moorestown route 3, from the collection of Edith R. Doane. (See her article, "The Beginnings of Rural Mail Delivery in New Jersey," on pages 27-31.)

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Passaic Falls Rediscovered

ADVENTURES OF A NEW JERSEY COLLECTOR

HAROLD J. DAHL

Following is the text of an address presented at the Society's annual meeting on October 29, 1958. Elsewhere in this issue will be found a copy of the catalogue prepared for an exhibit of early Passaic Falls views, lent to the Society by Mr. Dahl and George Connor.

THERE are two basic reasons for collecting. They are poles apart but still the differences have always been less noticeable than the apparent similarities. Both involve the acquisition of things, often feverishly and in massive quantity but in the one, acquisition is the end in itself and in the other acquisition is but a step to higher enjoyments.

The first case, reduced to its absurdities, encompasses the collector of match box covers and, because of a mistake in direction on the part of the collector, can include almost anything, however noble in itself. I have seen houses so jammed with miscellany that the occupants were almost in the position of being slightly more organized Collier brothers. I have seen houses full of frogs, peacocks, butterflies, Little Red Riding Hoods; and collections of wines long since soured. Also, one of the finest collections of Sevres and Vincennes porcelain in private hands is the result of nothing more than continual buying with no thought of direction.

This indiscriminate or "open-end" collecting has many drawbacks and few rewards. More often than not the subject is faddy

and the collector finds himself in a club that has so many members competing against one another that only the dealers benefit. Some such items are continuous so that the collection continues on and on like a cemetery until all the available space is gone and much money with it.

Quite distinct from this is what I have come to call "closed-end collecting" because there is a definite, foreseeable completion possible. This type of collecting is far more rewarding than the "open-end" for this reason, and for another, the joy of research. Without knowledge a closed-end collection is apt to end up like the many who have started with a John Hancock signature at twenty-five dollars or a Robert Morris at ten dollars only to discover another signer of the Declaration of Independence, Button Gwinett, whose signature has brought as much as thirty-one thousand dollars.

But bring into play that wonderful word "knowledge" and the rewards roll in. Research on items in the collection or available to it inevitably increases the collection and each increase brings further information, often branching out into delectable fields to be visited another day.

Most collectors, ourselves included, drift into their chosen subject or subjects. Few, I think, have the objectivity of approach of a Maxim Karolik. Rather, we buy something that interests us, we delve into it a little and soon we are deep in a fascinating game.

Let me tell you a little of how George Connor and I got interested in the collection now on view here. We are appraisers of household contents and works of art; we must keep an interest in a great variety of subjects, but our first and greatest love is Americana. Our travels take us at one time or another to all the seaboard states, and quite far inland. One thing that has irked us has been the attitude in certain other states which quite without foundation, have usurped unto themselves all the Founding Fathers, the early settlers, the heritage of freedom, the strength to declare for independence, the will to fight for it and the wisdom to write the Constitution. New Jersey? Who ever heard of anything happening in New Jersey?

Not long ago *Think,* the magazine of I.B.M., featured a photograph of the George Washington statue in Morristown, touched with snow and with the Ford Mansion appearing plain and distinct in the background. The caption said "This is how George Washington may have looked at Valley Forge." When taken to task about it the editors replied that Jockey Hollow did not have national significance.

In a nutshell, that is what griped me — that if something happened elsewhere it was national, but if in New Jersey it was just a local affair. Oh, they grudgingly grant us Trenton and throw in Molly Pitcher but that is *it.* I felt that much of this is a morale problem and wanted to do some little thing to help people in New Jersey feel more aware of the great heritage of this state, feeling as I do that every effort must be made in this day to enhance character and responsibility. On all sides we are bombarded by mediocrity, by a "they owe me a living" attitude, by pressures of many kinds to relax and choose the easy way. Pride of Country, pride of State, pride of family and pride of self are interdependent one upon the other. The immense success of Bruce Catton's *American Heritage* is indication enough of the great hunger Americans have for national pride. And this is not limited, as has sometimes been indicated, because of a second or third generation population. That is, as long as "Heritage" is not confused with "Genealogy." Dr. Louis C. Jones, writing in *Antiques* for July, 1956, had this to say: "There are values for a child on his way to school just in knowing that this house stood on this same site when his great-grandfather was a boy, even if that grandfather lived far across the sea."

He was so right and might even have gone a step farther with validity. He might have said that the happenings here in New Jersey, in Massachusetts, in New York, were a part of a larger story and it makes little real difference whether a man's ancestors fought under Washington in 1776 or under John Hunyadi in 1456. It has all been part of the same great struggle and it is an easy matter for one to transfer his feelings of historical heritage. Our military knows full well that a Unit Citation builds esprit de corps when it is awarded and for generations after members of the unit wear its insignia proudly.

So I felt that I was on firm ground in my decision that the morale of the people of New Jersey could be affected beneficially by a stronger feeling toward the heritage of this state and its history.

One of the great charges leveled against our state is that of over-industrialization; so it naturally came to my mind that nearby in Paterson, was a primary example of just what, once thought right, would now be thought terribly wrong. Many times as a boy I saw the barren, dry rocks and marvelled at hearing the old-timers in Towaco tell of pilgrimages to the Falls for boating, picnicking and a day of listening to the rush of the water. Slowly it dawned on me that here was a fallen giant. It was almost as if Niagara herself were to be drained dry for electric current. It was quite natural for me to speak to George about it as he bears quite heavily upon him the distinction of descent from some of those who were responsible for what had happened there. It developed that he had long been interested, had known of and collected a number of prints and had been hoping that Paterson's redevelopment problems would lead to the restoration of the Falls and their parklike surroundings. When he showed me his pictures I knew we had something; they were simply unbelievable when contrasted with the present state of the Falls. Hardly anyone, I was certain, had any idea of their existence. As we gathered more and more into our collection and our ikonography I was more and more amazed at their number, variety and appeal.

The story of the Falls, as related in our article, really begins when their ruin was already inevitable — with the establishment of the Society for Useful Manufactures in 1794. For the first hundred years or so the changes were relatively slow, but in the early years of this century a mammoth face-dropping operation was done in which power for the mills took the place of picnics and parks. Today such a thing would be inconceivable as we have learned that an undistinguished city cannot hold the labor force it needs in order to survive, much less to prosper.

It is no secret that thousands of us who had our first experiences abroad in the Second World War came home deeply impressed with the beauty of European cities. We had come to accept the dowdiness of our own cities as an unavoidable circum-

stance and to measure them one against the other without thinking of beauty at all. Paris, Rome, Brussels, Luxembourg, have changed all that. The American today cannot help but wince at the monstrosities we see every day, and cannot be put off from doing something about them.

Newark is about to undergo a great change, as is Manhattan, which already has lifted itself considerably. Perhaps with the coming of atomic power Paterson too can regain her youth by restoring the Falls.

Now, getting back to my opening remarks about "closed-end collecting," I can give you here concrete examples of the interplay of research and acquisition.

In order to further our knowledge, we spent much of our spare time in libraries, museums and other collections, checking every possible source. As we found a print or a reference to one, we tried to identify the artist, the publication and determine whether or not a copy might be purchased. One very interesting bit of information we came across was that Charlotte de Survilliers, daughter of Joseph Bonaparte, had gone from Bordentown to the Falls and made sketches, some of which were engraved and published in France. Some weeks later at a New York antique show, I was rewarded by finding one of these, signed only "Charlotte" and going unrecognized. I bought it for very little.

One of my best sources of information has been the catalog of the Erskine Hewitt Sale, held at Parke-Bernet in 1938. Listed and pictured in it was an engraving of the Falls by W. S. Leney, published in New York in 1807, very early for an American engraving, a fine representation, and, sadly, reported to be the only copy extant. Of course I wanted that print for the exhibition—but the Galleries were unable to get at their records, to tell me who had purchased it. This was disappointing, but I continued to check other collections and sources. One day Mr. Lunny telephoned me to say that the New Jersey Bank & Trust Co. of Paterson had a fine collection of which he had just been told. Could I go look at it? The next day I was being conducted around the bank offices, a little disappointed that my standard opening question, "have you the Leney print?" was unproduc-

tive. After examining the pictures in their general offices I was told that there was one to go—a primitive painting in the Board Room. I cannot tell you how really excited I was to find that the artist, one Catherine Van Houten, had used as her model that same print for which we had been looking. Her version of it hangs in the exhibition, graciously lent to us by the Bank. And now I can say, too late for the present Show but welcome anyway, there came a call from Parke-Bernet, giving me detailed information that led to the discovery of the present owner.

Also, during this period Mr. Lunny and Mr. Wiseman showed me a photographic reproduction of an early watercolor depicting the Passaic River, saying that as it was in San Francisco it would be terribly difficult to get. Several weeks later a friend told me of a picture that had appeared the night before in the Paterson *Evening News,* a gift to Mr. Harry Haines from the head of Curtiss-Wright. Of course, that proved to be the one the Society had record of and it too hangs in this exhibition.

For more than a year Kennedy Galleries had been telling me that they had an oil painting of the Falls, in poor condition and artist unknown. One morning I arrived at my office to find the picture there. I liked its aspect and the obvious professional hand that created it so I bought it. Cleaning disclosed the signature "X. Meyer—1880." How I hunted for that man! In all the references I could find, confident that he was a professional and would be listed as such—but without any success whatsoever. At last, upon the urging of Mr. Hammond of the Passaic County Historical Society, I did what I should have done long before—looked in the Paterson directory, and there he was—"Xavier Meyer, Machinist, 34 Ellison Street."

Now I have recounted several of the stories connected with obtaining items in our collection. In concluding, I would like to share with you a wonderful experience which grew out of the routine research on a print that was in our collection but about which little was known, except that it had sold in the Erskine Hewitt Sale. We bought it because we saw it in a shop and liked it, especially as it differed from our others in that the breadth of the vista is exaggerated.

It is one of our best prints, number 9 in the catalog, an engraving colored, by Byrnne after Henry Hamilton, dated June

1777. Search as we would, we could find no reference to any artist by that name. The New-York Historical Society Index, a fine work, came out and Mr. Hamilton was not included. Neither could we find him in English references.

The only possible next step, and a very difficult one, was to think: Why is he not included? How could he have done this sketch when the Americans held the Falls area in the prior years of the war? Could this man have been an English officer, like Davies, in the French and Indian War? Could such fine sketches have gone unnoticed?

I started to follow that tack by looking for a Henry Hamilton in histories—found nothing in the New Jersey ones—nothing at all, in fact, in the accounts of the French and Indian War. Then I thought, perhaps he was too young at that time to be of importance, but may have returned during the Revolution. For some weeks I had no time to go to the reference libraries, but at home, in a biography of George Rogers Clark, I found a Lt. Col. Henry Hamilton, British commander at Detroit, known as the "Hair Buyer" because he kept the Indians well lickered up and hot after Colonials. It was he who surrendered the Northwest to Clark in 1778. No mention of his drawing, but on a chance I called Dr. Ronalds of the Morristown National Historical Park and asked him what he knew. "Not too much," he said, "except that it sounds out of character for that man to be an artist." The doctor had a friend, however, who specialized in Clark and had recently published a biography so he promised to write and ask if (1) Hamilton was here during the earlier war, and (2) did he draw? The answer we finally received was "yes" and referred us to a Professor Barnhart at Indiana University who has published works on Henry Hamilton and would possibly be able to help. A letter went to Dr. Barnhart and just last week I received a reply from him attaching an excerpt from Hamilton's unpublished journals. Henry Hamilton's autobiography (a manuscript in Houghton Library, Harvard University) contains the following:

> General Amherst had the goodness to allow my quitting the camp. I went into the East Jerseys, where in the enchanting scenery of Pasaic [*sic*] and second river, by change of air diet, and using horse exercise, I perfectly recovered in a fortnight—My Landlord seeing that I was fre-

quently employed in sketching the romantic Rocks and curious fall of Pasaic, came to me one day and in the most humble but pressing manner sollicited me to paint for him a sign, as he said it would engage company to come to his house. I had great pleasure in gratifying this honest publican, who being also a carpenter, I directed to prepare a Sign board, & at the same time sent to York for oil colors, pencils &—and in two days I painted for him a View of the Falls—and he was highly delighted with my daubing, & wd. have in remuneration struck out of my Bill the charge of my horse—I have understood my sign weathered [*sic*] storms and rain for several years to the great credit of the Painter.

The frost was not set in, on the 11th of October (1761) we sailed . . .

So, because of research I found a valued print and now because of an acquisition and our desire to identify it, we can beyond doubt ascribe a published sketch of the Passaic Falls to none other than Lt. Col. Henry Hamilton, the notorious Hair Buyer!

Militia Law in Revolutionary Jersey

JOHN R. ANDERSON

This is the second of two articles on the New Jersey's militia during the Revolution. Mr. Anderson's previous article, "The Beginnings, 1775-1776," appeared in the October PROCEEDINGS.

"MEN, NOT MONEY," 1777-1781

THE efforts of the legislature during the first two years of the war had resulted in a hodge-podge accumulation of militia acts which often became so cumbersome and complicated that they could be understood only with great difficulty. Often conflicting interpretations would occur, either through design or misunderstanding, and, worst of all, sufficient troops did not always reach the field.

A great deal of criticism was leveled at the New Jersey Militia Acts during 1777. The correspondence of Governor Livingston contains exchanges between General Washington and the Governor about substitutes, fines, and General Putnam's methods of enforcement. Washington, in a letter to Livingston, written from Morristown on January 24th, criticized the militia of New Jersey as "irregular and disjointed," and declared that "unless law is passed by your Legislature to reduce them to some order, and oblige them to turn out in a different manner from what they have hitherto done, we shall bring very few into the field, and even those few will do little or no service." The officers, contrary to the requirement of the Militia Act that they be men of "substance" were, in the General's opinion, "generally of the lowest class of people," who led their men "into every kind of mischief, one species of which is plundering the inhabitants, under the pretence of their being tories."

Washington was apprehensive, and rightly so, that unless such depredations were brought to a sudden and complete stop, people would be driven into the hands of the British. He felt that a law was needed to stop this nefarious practice, and that it should be

the first object of attention of the state legislaure and officials. The Commander-in-Chief opined that if a well-planned law were enacted and the militia led by good officers, the citizen-soldiers would behave well and "not only render real service as soldiers, but would protect instead of distressing the inhabitants."[47]

In the same letter, Washington touched upon a provision of the act that had been, ever since the organization of the mlitia, a thorn in the side of military men. The new law, continued the General, should require that "every man capable of bearing arms . . . turn out, and not buy off their service by a trifling sum. We want men, not money." He was not alone in his hostility towards the substitute system, for General Israel Putnam, on February 18th, in a letter to Livingston, protested that there was no merit in permitting "pecuniary compositions in lieu of actual service of the militia: at a time like this, no sum can be really equivalent."

Livingston had previously told Putnam that "all our militia join the army." The general had interpreted this statement to include even the Quakers. He "thought the Quakers were not excluded—but the remark in your postscript, that the Quakers cannot be compelled to fight without violating their conscientious scruples, &c., gives me to doubt whether money may be deemed satisfactory, or these drones of society permitted to remain unmolested." Putnam was afraid that should any one group be excluded from actual service on the basis of conscience, that others, not so idealistically inclined, would exempt themselves and "tender consciences will multiply to an alarming degree," and was concerned lest the consciences of any group tie their hands or purses.[48]

This controversy over the Quaker principle of "resist not evil by taking the sword" was a real problem in Burlington and Salem counties, where there were substantial numbers of that sect. Putnam, in February, 1777, sent a lieutenant into Salem County with an authorization to collect fines from those refusing to turn out and serve with the militia. Livingston countermanded Putnam's directive, and his intervention was supported by Washington, Putnam's superior. The Governor declared that the im-

[47]Theodore Sedgwick, *The Life of William Livingston* (New York, 1833), pp. 224-25.
[48]*Ibid.*, pp. 226-28.

position of fines made an "invidious Distinction between Rich & Poor, which is always attended with disagreeable Circumstances."[49]

In this brief statement, Livingston summed up the ever-present enigma of a substitute system based on financial contribution as constructive service. It was, said the governor, the intent of the law that all fines collected for noncompliance become the property of the company to which the offender belonged.

> This being the Case, it is really to the Interest of every Man willing to go, to discourage every other from going; as the money he receives in Proportion to the number of Delinquents . . . Moreover, this Practice will greatly retard the Inlistment in the continental Service. Because the poorer Sort, who will chiefly compose the new Service, will, by these Means, receive so much in Fines as to have little Inducement to enter for the sake of the Bounty.

The Governor felt that, in view of the situation, the people were finally convinced they must turn out freely if they were to protect their homes, "so long as the Enemy's Troops remain in this State; . . . I fear the Method you propose will re-introduce that Reluctance & Backwardness of which they began to be happily cured."[50] This letter to Putnam illustrates the reluctance that was prevalent among the elected officials when it came to enforcing their militia laws.

Washington, quite disgusted with the namby-pambyness of the legislature of New Jersey, with the British breathing down their necks, wrote Livingston that the militia law discussions led him to wonder how "an assembly of gentlemen, eyewitnesses to the distresses and inconveniences that have their principal source in the want of a well-regulated militia, hesitate to adopt the only remedy that can remove them!" He thought it "stranger still" how they could "think of a law that must necessarily add to the accumulated load of confusion. For Heaven's sake entreat them to lay aside their present opinions, and waiving every other consideration, let the public good be singularly attended to." The General felt the Assembly had better get off their high horse and do something lest British inactivity come to a sudden end and

[49]Leonard Lundin, *Cockpit of the Revolution* (Princeton, N.J., 1940), pp. 240-41.
[50]*Ibid.*, p. 241.

"when they do, your Assembly may perhaps wish that their militia were in the field."[51]

The commander of the militia, Dickinson, was also concerned with the effectiveness of those parts of the law compelling compliance and wrote critically to Livingston, from Trenton, on September 16th. The field commander reported that not one member of the Trenton Company had reported for duty with Colonel Philip's battalion, when recently called out. Stores of the Continental Army were stockpiled in Trenton, and it would not be long before Loyalists would inform their friends of this. "We now feel," said the General, "in the most sensible manner the defects of our militia law; not a moment should be lost in forming a new one that will compel the men to turn out."[52]

True to Livingston's prediction, many preferred to pay fines rather than take part in military activities, and many who did turn out were more interested in assuaging old grudges and looting their neighbors than in fighting the British. It was with this situation confronting him that Washington, during January, 1778, wrote the letter criticizing the type of officer to be found leading the militiamen. Livingston agreed, frankly acknowledging the apathy of the Quakers towards compulsory service laws. He placed the blame for ineffective laws on this attitude of so many constituents, since it blocked passage of legislation that would comply with the desires of the military leaders. Commenting on the new militia laws, the governor said, "I cannot make our Assembly sensible of the Importance of an effectual Militia Law; or if they be, they are so unduly influenced by the fear of disobeying their Constituents, that they dare not exert themselves with the requisite Spirit for the Exigencies of the War."[53]

By the end of 1777, the militia laws had reached such a state of hopeless confusion that one of the last laws passed for that year was entitled, "A Supplementary Act to an Act intitled An Act to explain and amend an Act intitled An Act for the better regulating the militia and the Supplemental Act thereto."[54] Liv-

[51] Sedgwick, *op. cit.*, pp. 229-30.
[52] *Ibid.*, p. 244.
[53] *New Jersey Archives*, 2nd Ser., II, 84.
[54] *Acts of the Council and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey, 1776-1783* (Trenton, 1784), p. 35.

ingston, early in 1778, reported to the General Assembly that a revision of all existing militia laws was necessary, since they were becoming difficult to administer. Judging by the title of the law just mentioned, the governor's statement could be classed as the understatement of 1778!

The shortcomings of the militia ordinances were recognized by just about everyone having anything to do with them but, "like Topsy, they just growed," without anyone's designing a new suit to cover the enlarged limbs. A new "Act for the regulating, training and arraying the militia" had been passed on April 14th and, in accordance with its provisions, the militia was divided into two brigades, one under General Winds and the other under Heard.[55]

Excessive fines for absence from drafts, or for failure to procure substitutes, along with inequities in distresses levied for non-compliance, still occurred despite legislation aimed at stopping these abuses. The *New Jersey Gazette,* during 1778, carried several notices calling attention to meetings of magistrates, militia officers belonging to affected battalions, collectors, who gathered to make belonging to affected battalions, collectors and constables, who gathered to make fair and just settlements.[56]

No effective, revised, Militia Act was passed by the legislature during 1778, nor was there any in 1779. Rather, occasional stopgap measures became law, such as that passed on May 1, 1779, resolving that

> until a Law can be enacted to make further provision for the Militia, each officer, noncommissioned officer, and private . . . receive as an equivalent to the additional allowance lately agreed upon to be made to continental troops, the sum of five shillings by the day, over and above their pay, bounty, rations and mileage.[57]

The wording of this seems to indicate the legislature realized a new militia law had to be enacted, but continued in their spirit of procrastination, probably still trying to satisfy constituents and public good at the same time.

In 1780, another "Act to amend an act intitled An Act for the regulating, training and arraying of the militia, and the supple-

[55] *New Jersey Archives,* 2d Ser., II, 256-57.
[56] *Ibid.,* pp. 516, 350-51.
[57] *Ibid.,* III, 346.

mentary act thereto" was passed, but nothing effective.[58] Finally, in 1781, action was taken by the legislature. The first Militia Act of 1781, passed on January 1st, reorganized the militia into three brigades, in place of the existing two-brigade structure. This act, in its preamble, acknowledged that "Laws heretofore made . . . have been found inadequate to these important Purposes, and have become, from their Number and Diversity, difficult to be understood and executed!"[59]

Better control over militia finances, as well as improved organizational efficiency, was to result from this act which included a requirement for a "reputable Freeholder, not a Military Officer, within the District of their Regiment or Battalion, to act as Treasurer to the same." His duties required that he receive all fines and forfeitures collected under the act and pay all drafts made by commanding officers, "PROVIDED NEVERTHELESS, That the County of *Monmouth* shall, on Account of its present Circumstances, have one common Treasurer to the three Regiments within the same to be appointed by a Majority of the Officers of the said Regiments jointly." The treasurer was not to discharge any drafts, except in proportion to the usual number of militiamen turning out, and each unit was to furnish him a return to be used in determining these proportions. Account books had to be kept by the treasurer, and he was entitled, as compensation, to one percent of all monies received and paid out. This civilian "technician" was not to be a power unto himself. Commissioned officers were to constitute a board of audit, and were required to meet as a board once every six months. Any irregularities found were to result in the treasurer's replacement and prosecution.[60]

This act authorized eight officers, eight noncommissioned officers, a drummer and a fifer for each company. The rank of second lieutenant was deleted from the table of organization, but those serving as such were to continue as overages until promoted or discharged.

Elections of officers were held within thirty days of a vacancy occurring, by a majority vote of those present after the company

[58] *Ibid.*, IV, 277.
[59] *Acts . . . 1776-1783* (Trenton, 1784). Chapter CCXLII, p. 166.
[60] *Ibid.*, p. 167.

had been called together. A clerk was appointed to manage the election and certify its results. Should no commissioned officers remain in the company, the battalion commander was to call and conduct the election, advertising by notices set up in at least three of the most public places within the bounds of the company's district. Election of personnel to fill noncommissioned officer vacancies took place at regular training assemblies. Commissioned officers were to appoint noncommissioned officers should any company refuse to elect them. Militiamen refusing to serve as noncommissioned officers were to be awarded fines of £3 each, but only one fine was allowed annually for any one person. Commissioned officers received commissions from the governor and noncommissioned officers served under warrants issued by company commanders.

This act listed certain types of individuals who were not to be enrolled. These included public officials, slaves, ferrymen on the public ferries (two on each ferry on the Delaware below the falls at Trenton, and one on each of the other ferries in the state) and every other person exempted by the laws of the state. Not only were these persons to be excluded from the rolls, but they were not to "be subject to military duty."

Items of personal equipment included a "good" musket (seven shilling, six pence, fine, if not available), bayonet, worm, cartridge box with twenty-three rounds "fitted for the musket," priming wire, brush, six flints, a knapsack and canteen (a fine of one shilling, should any item, other than a musket, be unavailable at a muster). Any person furnishing himself "with a good Rifle-Gun, the Apparatus necessary for the same, and a Tomahawk . . . shall be accepted in Lieu of the Musket and Bayonet and other Articles belonging thereto!" Each militiaman was also required to keep, at his "place of abode," one pound of "good merchantable Gunpowder" and three pounds of "Ball sized to his Musket or Rifle." A fine of three shillings awaited the negligent soldier who did not have these ready. Militiamen having difficulty procuring necessary equipment were to be exempted from fines until they could secure it. To be certain that arms were available and kept in good condition between training assemblies, a sergeant from the company was to conduct what we,

today, would call a "showdown inspection," calling at the home of each person enrolled. Should a commander neglect to order the sergeant out for these inspections, he was made subject to a fine of £6 and, if the sergeant were negligent, once ordered out, a £3 fine would accrue against the noncommissioned officer.[61]

The act set specific days for holding company and regimental musters. The former held assemblies at ten o'clock on the morning of the first Monday in April and September, spending the rest of the day in training. Penalties for unauthorized absence ranged from £3 for a captain, and forty shillings for lieutenants and ensigns, to not less than five shillings, nor more than forty shillings, for noncommissioned officers and privates. Those reporting late were to pay "in due Proportion." Regimental musters were held on the first Monday in June and November. Strength returns of companies as to arms, equipment and personnel were made at this time. Absence from this muster exacted a heavier maximum penalty than for company formations. Colonels and lieutenant colonels were required to pay £10, and enlisted men not less than five shillings, nor more than £3. Penalties for other officers ranged between these.

During July and December of each year, colonels, or commanding officers, of regiments or battalions were required to make returns to their superiors, under a penalty of £20 for default. A return was also required, at this time, regarding the condition of "Arms, Accoutrements and Ammunition" belonging to the regiment or battalion. This report was to be submitted to the "Keeper of the Magazine or Commissary of Military Stores" in the state and failure to provide the return resulted in a penalty of £20. General officers, too, were to make returns, the brigadier being required to report in January and August of each year (£25 penalty for default) and the major general in February and September (£50 fine). These officers, in reporting to the governor, were to survey the state and combat-readiness of the entire militia.[62]

Perhaps this militia act appears to be the "grand-daddy" of military red tape and endless reports that are still plaguing ad-

[61] *Ibid.*, p. 168-69.
[62] *Ibid.*, p. 170.

jutants and commanders almost two hundred years later, but a comparison with previous acts shows that they were very necessary. Here, for the first time, was a requirement, definite and with deadlines, for timely reporting of strength and equipment available to those officers and civil officials charged, if not by law, by necessity of knowing the status of their command. Perhaps the reports were not the most accurate, but they did provide a starting point for effective control from a central point. No military organization can plan or function effectively if its officers are operating in the dark, nor can legislators provide laws for the governing of the militia if they do not know, officially, of the problems confronting the commanders in the field.

Misbehavior subjected offenders to stricter penalties than heretofore. Field, staff and other commissioned officers conducting themselves in an "unofficerlike manner" were to be cashiered or fined, at the discretion of the brigade or regimental court martial. Enlisted men appearing at company assemblies with unfit arms and accoutrements, or who were drunk, disobedient, abusive when addressing officers or promoted quarrels were liable to a forfeiture of not less than five shillings, nor more than £3. An alternative was provided by allowing an enlisted offender to be disarmed and placed under guard until the company was dismissed from training.[63]

Companies were divided into eight equal classes, with a sergeant or corporal in charge of each, performing duty on a rotation basis. Officers were ordered out on a "just rotation," in proportion to the number of enlisted personnel being called to duty. Not more than one-half of the militia was to be ordered out for assignment to another state, and the governor was authorized to call out the same number for guarding New Jersey, but not more than that number at any one time, nor for a tour of duty of more than a month. Should there be an invasion, insurrection, sedition or movement by the enemy on the state, the restrictions were suspended, and the whole militia ordered out.

The act specified that verbal notice to individual officers of regiments and companies to assemble their troops, or notice "left at his usual Place of Abode, with any white Person of Years

[63] *Ibid.*, p. 171.

of Discretion belonging to the Family," was a sufficient authority to call out units. Should there be a sudden alert, when the company would have to "retire before the Enemy, that alarm shall be deemed sufficient notice" to assemble!

Penalties for refusal to serve a tour of duty were even more stringent than those applying to training formations, or for failure to submit required reports. Commissioned officers refusing to report for duty were subject to trial by courts martial and, upon convicting, cashiered and "rendered incapable of holding any Military Office for one year," or a £10 to £50 fine. An enlisted man not serving his tour, or not finding an acceptable substitute, was to forfeit from £5 to £30. Absence without leave was to result in a court martial and, should the delinquent be a commissioned officer, convicting was to result in being cashiered and fined not more than £50. Enlisted men guilty of AWOL were to forfeit all pay and allowances and be fined not exceeding £50.

As in previous militia acts, fines were to be collected by payment, on the first demand and, if not paid, distress warrants would result. Should there be no goods to distrain, the offender, if a subaltern or enlisted man, was delivered to the sheriff or keeper of the "County Gaol." Fines against commanding officers were collected by a Justice of the Peace. Parents, guardians and masters were made responsible for forfeitures levied against their minor charges. Courts of appeal were to be composed of two Justices of the Peace and one field grade officer. Fines, however, had to be collected before any appeal could be made.[64]

To prevent the "disappearance" of militiamen, and to exercise control over them while moving residences from one jurisdiction to another, a discharge was now required from the company to which the migrant belonged. After relocating himself, the militiaman had to enroll, within ten days, in the company assigned to the district where his new home was located, under penalty of a fine of not more than £5.

The militia, just as previously required, was to be subject to the *Rules and Articles of War,* when in actual service, and courts appointed for the trial of militiamen were composed of other militiamen (officers). Punishments could not extend to the taking of life or limb, or to the infliction of any corporal punish-

[64] *Ibid.*, pp. 172, 174-76.

ment, except in cases invlving certain high crimes. Treacherous correspondence with the enemy, or passing intelligence information to them, was punishable by a maximum penalty of death. Misbehavior in the face of the enemy, desertion, shameful abandonment of post and inducing others to commit any of these crimes were also capital offenses. Personnel participating in courts martial received the same pay and allowances for time spent at court as they would receive were they on active duty.[65]

One-half of all fines collected from members of a regiment, after deduction of costs, were equally divided among the enlisted men, if collected from a noncommissioned officer or private. Fifty percent of the forfeitures lifted from subaltern officers was distributed among their fellow juniors. The other half of forfeitures collected was placed in the regimental coffers to provide funds for training expenses of the unit. Fines of field officers and captains were paid to regimental treasurers, to be used for training purposes.

During the course of the war, troops of horse had been formed among militia units of the state, but no specific statutory requirement for their equipment had been made prior to the act of January 8, 1781. Those already formed were brought up to strength and another company was to be formed in Woodbridge and Piscataway townships.[66] Members of troops were equipped with a horse and saddle, furnished with a pair of pistols and holsters, a cartridge box with twelve rounds to fit the pistols, a broad sword and belt, a cloak to cover all arms and accoutrements and "such other Articles of Armour and Furniture made in like Form and Manner as are usual and accustomed in the Equipment of Cavalry." One pound of powder and three of ball were kept at home by each trooper, just as in the case of other militiamen. Fines, of course, were provided for the trooper who might report for duty without proper equipment. The absence of a horse cost the foot-sore trooper a forfeiture of £6. Riding to duty without saddle and bridle resulted in the bare-back rider's paying a fine of twenty shillings, and any other required item not brought to training meant the loss of five shillings by the offender. Horse units were under the jurisdiction of the regimental

[65] *Ibid.*, p. 178.
[66] *Ibid.*, pp. 176-79.

commander for their district. Ration allowances provided by this law for members of troops of horse were the same for both man and beast—one shilling, three pence, per day!

This law also provided for the strengthening of artillery companies by requiring that they be brought to their full authorizations of personnel and equipment. Officers, enlisted men and equipment assigned to these units were to conform to standards set for similar units in the Continental service.[67]

Efficient administration of military justice was an important item in the minds of legislators, since the passing of a militia act was one thing, but the operation and enforcement quite another. "An Act to compel the Attendance of Witnesses at Militia Courts-Martial" was passed on June 9th, and provided for serving a subpoena on any person residing in the state to personally appear before a military court appointed for the trial of offenders by virtue of the Militia Act of January 8, 1781. Subpoenas were issued by the president of the court, and those not obeying were subject, upon conviction, to a fine of £15, "in Specie or other current Money equivalent thereto."[68]

The Militia Law of 1781, with this supplementary act, represents the result of six years of trial, error and procrastination on the part of the legislature. Throughout the years of evolution of the militia laws, protection of civilian inhabitants had not been forgotten and, from the title of a supplementary law passed in December, 1781, it can be seen that it was often necessary, as the battle shifted back and forth, to protect Jerseymen from their own militia, as well as from the enemy. On December 20, 1781, there was passed, "An Act to procure an Estimate of the Damages sustained by the Inhabitants of this State from the Waste and Spoil committed by the Troops in the Service of the Enemy and their Adherents, by the Continental Army, or by the Militia of this or of the neighbouring States." This action was taken so that "equal Justice may be done to all the Inhabitants of this State." To effect the required estimates, appraisers were appointed for each county. Needless to say, the protection of this act did not extend to "suspicious persons."[69]

[67] *Ibid.*, pp. 180-81.
[68] *Ibid.*, Chapter CCLX, p. 197.
[69] *Ibid.*, Chapter CCXCII, pp. 237-38.

General Philemon Dickinson, on May 25, 1781, wrote Josiah Hornblower, speaker of the Assembly, that there is

> a duty incumbent on me to represent to the hon[orabl]e legislature of the present wretched, feeble contemptible and disgraceful state of our military companies, praying they would be pleased to take the same into consideration, and make such an arrangement as will reflect honor on themselves and give security to the state.[70]

Dickinson, once again, was dissatisfied with existing militia laws, and he cannot be blamed for his stand. He was charged with the defense of the state and was demanding an efficient, hart-hitting force that could be depended upon, "run by the book." In fact, he saw to it that officers had the "book" at hand, for on January 31, 1781, following a printing of the new militia act, the *New Jersey Gazette* reported that "General Dickinson informs the Colonels and other officers commanding battalions in the militia of this state, that the Printer will deliver (to those who have not already received them) the number of militia acts allowed each battalion."[71]

From this survey of the New Jersey militia laws during the War of Independence, it can be seen that it took more than dedication and the ability to march to the tune of *The White Cockade,* to mould an efficient fighting force out of part-time soldiers, subject to the pressures of everyday occupations during a time of war, as well as the defense of their state and new-born nation. Commanders had little real control over their troops during these early days, but they gained more as better laws developed. Indeed, officers who were to exercise command were still chosen by those they were to command, even under the law of 1781. This was, perhaps, a fine example of democracy at work, but good military officers were selected in *spite* of such a method, not because of it, since a military unit cannot operate on popularity alone. The other glaring deficiency in the militia law, that had to be contended with throughout the war, was the problem of substitutes and payments as constructive service. General Washington put it on the line when he admonished, "we need men, not money."

[70] *Selections from the Correspondence of the Executive of New Jersey, from 1776 to 1786* (Newark, 1848), pp. 280-81.

[71] *New Jersey Archives,* 2nd Ser., II, 187.

Editor Philip Freneau's Use of Translations

PHILIP M. MARSH

The author, an authority on New Jersey's "poet of the American Revolution," reveals another aspect of Freneau's versatility as an editor.

PHILIP FRENEAU, first important American poet, was editor or assistant editor of five newspapers—in New York, Philadelphia, and New Jersey—at varying periods from 1781 to 1797. Well versed in Latin and fairly proficient in French, he translated and published occasional French writings.

In Philadelphia he published a translation of Abbe' Claude Robin's *Nouveau Voyage dans l'Amerique Septentrionale,* which had appeared in Paris in 1782. Freneau's version, *New Travels through North-America,* was published in 1783; and a second edition appeared in 1784, in Boston. Robin had been a chaplain in the French army with Rochambeau in America, had travelled from Boston to Yorktown, and had written a journal of his experiences and observations. These were in the form of thirteen letters dated from June to November, 1781. Freneau's introduction explains that the account is not "a dry relation of events merely military," but also discusses history, politics, religion, character, and customs in America.

Freneau's translation is small, of about one hundred pages, and contains thirteen letters and an appendix. The first, dated at Boston, June 24, 1781, describes Robin's voyage and seasickness, then Boston's buildings and customs: "Sunday is observed with the utmost strictness; all business, how important so ever, is then totally at a stand, and the most innocent recreations and pleasures prohibited . . . Nobody fails of going to the place of worship . . . All these churches are destitute of ornaments."

Traveling on to Newport, Providence, and across the country, Robin visited thirty-nine camps—commenting on the American stage, the Tories, the trees and birds, the war and the soldiers, Indians, ships, etc.

In the same year, Freneau—now a contributor, though he had been assistant editor—apparently translated, for the *Freeman's Journal* of Philadelphia, an item from the *Mercury* of France (January, 1779), entitled "Strictures on the Poem of *Paradise Lost*." In the next year, 1784 (in January), the *Journal* published a part of *l'Origine du Despotism Oriental,* by Nicholas-Antoine Boulanger (1722-1759), a philosophe; this work had appeared after the author's death, and may have been "retouched" by Holbach. The translator notes that the piece had been intended as an introduction to Montesquieu's *Spirit of Laws*. Since Freneau marked this item in his personal file, it was probably his work. He says of Boulanger,

> He discusses the principles of the first civil and political institutions, which induced men to prefer a Theocratic form of government. He then traces the progress of Theocracy as degenerating into idolatry, and producing despotism. He next considers all the varieties in despotic governments, and pursues the progress of despotism into republics or monarchies.

From 1784 to 1789, Freneau was a master of small coastwise ships. In 1790, he married and settled in New York as assistant editor of the *Daily Advertiser*. And in July of that year he published another translation from Boulanger, "Upon the Ancient Revolutions of Nature," probably from his important work, *l'Antiquite' Devoilee',* also published after his death; this also may have seen the editorial hand of Holbach. The point of the translated portion is that, though there have been vast changes on earth and in the planets, these are to be understood by philosophers, not by ordinary people, who consider them "mere dreams and whimsies."

In the same month, Editor Freneau published another item from Boulanger, "On the Reliques of Despotism—in Asia, Africa, and America," about instances of tyranny in Greece, Siam, Loango, Mexico, and elsewhere.

In November, 1790, he published a translation from *Nouveau Voyage en Espagne,* called "On the National Character of the Spaniards," in which the Arabs are partly blamed for Spanish manners, thought, and taste. No author is mentioned. This was followed by another portion of Boulanger's *l'Origine du Despotism,* in which is argued the close relationship of idolatry and

despotism. The remedy suggested is "true philosophy" and less respect for the "authority of antiquity," as well as more regard for examining "things as they are."

Late in October, 1791, Freneau began editing the *National Gazette* in Philadelphia—a political newspaper chiefly devoted to national issues. In December he published several translations: (1) a version of the epigram under the Paris statue of Louis XV, with an expanded interpretation; (2) a cynical extract on religion in Scotland, from *French Letters, dedicated to the National Assembly;* and (3) an item called "On the Pleasures of Ignorance," from a "late French author." No authors of these pieces are named.

In January, 1792, the editor offered, from *Le Patriote Francois,* a translation of an obvious hoax, a price current for indulgencies in the Catholic Church—for example, for beating a priest without fetching blood, 6 livres; for lying with a woman in church, 55 pounds, 8 shillings; and for a "priest who takes a concubine," 6 pounds, 6 shillings. This got Freneau into a dispute with Mathew Carey, a fellow publisher and ardent Catholic, who as "Zwinglius" contributed a similar list of Protestant fines—for example, "for going into a Popish church, except to burn it, or to break some of its idolatrous ornaments," 60 pounds; and for "killing a Popish priest" or "setting fire to a Popish church," two pence. This was Carey's way of ridiculing Freneau.

In December, 1792, Editor Freneau offered a translation from Condorcet's *Thoughts on Constitutions,* comparing a constitution to a human body, enlivened by national spirit. He argued, "Let us follow nature . . . to universal light . . . The people, when thoroughly awakened, will themselves constitute the supreme civil power of the world." This may have been from his best book, *Esquisse d'un Tableau Historique des Progres de l'Esprit Humain,* on the idea of human perfectibility through revolution and the destruction of inequality.

In May of 1793, Freneau published a translation by "X." of an extract from Brissot's *Nouveau Voyage dans les Etats Unis . . . fait en 1788.* In it, Brissot accused Philadelphia Presbyterians of persecuting Quakers during the Revolution, and attacked Joseph Reed, then president of the state. "X."—probably Freneau,

who was a warm admirer of Reed—denounced the accusation as false. He made the point that the Quakers mentioned were executed on November 4, 1778, and that Reed did not take office as council member until November 24, nor as president till December 1.

From May to April, 1795-1796, Freneau himself printed a rural weekly at his New Jersey home—the *Jersey Chronicle,* largely devoted to educating farmers on national and international politics. One translation is of some interest, from Rousseau's *Emile* (September, 1795), in which the author prophesied the near downfall of European monarchies. In the same issue the editor published, from Gratian, "The Circle of Human Life," an account of man's seven stages from childhood to old age, when he becomes a child once more. (One Gratian was a twelfth-century Italian monk who founded the science of canon law. Another was a fourth-century Roman emperor.)

In March, 1797, with Alexander Menut, Freneau founded the *Time Piece* in New York, a thrice-weekly, semi-literary newspaper. Faced with the problem of filling its columns, he republished much of what had appeared in the *Jersey Chronicle,* and also Robin's *New Travels* again, in serial form.

In April evidently he did a translation of a poem by an unknown, one Romme, who wrote it on the eve of his execution by Robespierre. In May the *Time Piece* included translations as follow: the anonymous "Lines Written under the Picture of Madam Valliere," extracts from Ambroise Arnould's *Systeme Maritime Politique des Europeens dans le Dix-huitieme Siecle* (1797), a partial paraphrase of *The Secret History of the French Revolution* (no author given), continued in later numbers, and (from the *London Chronicle*) "The Epiphany of 1797," a poem on the misfortunes of several European monarchs (no author).

In June appeared Jefferson's famed letter to Mazzei, in the original French from the *Gazette Nationale,* with translated comments from the Paris *Moniteur.* There was also a translation from one Bonneville, on the causes of celebrity and on recent progress in France. In July were a few pieces under "Translations from Paris Papers"—and such groupings now appeared regularly, with news from the *Gazette Nationale.*

In August, the *Time Piece* continued to publish translations from this gazette, along with portions of a journal by an unnamed French traveller. From the works of the great orator Mirabeau, Freneau took "Portrait of What a Republican Ought to Be." He also published parts of Rousseau's *Dissertation on Political Economy,* which continued in sections throughout the month and into September, concluding with a flattering editorial. In October, the editor published an excerpt from Voltaire, "On the Maid of Orleans," a defense.

In November, Freneau inserted extracts from (Rousseau's?) *Systeme of Nature.* Then was also begun and continued in December Rousseau's *Of Deputies or Representatives,* with favorable editorial comments. Jean-Georges Zimmerman (1728-1795) was highly praised for his book on *National Pride,* published in 1758. On January 3, 1798, the day when Freneau left New York—probably because of debts—*The Time Piece* carried an extract from Jacques-Charles Bailleul (1762-1843), a conservative revolutionist, about French plots and rumors of war.

It is clear from this survey that Philip Freneau was only superficially interested in French literature and events before the French Revolution. Then, being a devoted democrat, he used French literature to strike at American aristocrats and would-be monarchists, particularly by Boulanger's *Origin of Despotism.* To spread the doctrine of democratic idealism, he used extracts from French newspapers and magazines, by Condorcet, Arnould, Mirabeau, and particularly Rousseau. Rousseau's *Political Economy* and *Deputies or Representatives* were especially useful to his purpose in 1797, when France was in disfavor with the Adams administration, and when the Federalists, under the threat of war, seemed to be moving dangerously close to what we would now call totalitarianism.

ANTIQUER'S ATTIC

MARGARET E. WHITE

EDITH R. Doane is a very active business woman who, some years ago, took up the study of postal history as a hobby. Investigating how mails are handled has given Miss Doane an interesting picture of American social history. She is now recognized as an authority on RFD and has acquired a sizable collection of specimen markings to which she is adding continually. We are happy to introduce Edith R. Doane to the readers of ANTIQUER'S ATTIC.

THE BEGINNING OF RURAL MAIL DELIVERY IN NEW JERSEY

EDITH R. DOANE

THE daily delivery of personal and business mail has been a welcome and routine phase of our postal system for many years. Yet it may be difficult, as well as impossible, for the great majority of those living today to visualize a time when it did not exist for those living in rural areas throughout the nation.

For example, until the late 1890's the rural population in New Jersey had been obliged to leave their farms and travel up to several miles to post offices for their mail because there was no system for its delivery to them as it was to their city cousins. And during the busy planting and harvesting seasons these trips could not be made more frequently than once or twice a week.

But in 1896 pressure from agricultural associations and many interested individuals forced the Post Office Department to recognize the right of the farmer to receive his mail daily. Congress earmarked an appropriation for this purpose and the Department set in motion then a powerful new catalytic force all over America. It first divided the nation into certain rural components; then through a new postal system of more convenient communication, it rapidly integrated the rural people with the urban population. The result was soon a more unified national civilization.

It developed great momentum during those years when the nineteenth and the twentieth centuries were closely contiguous and it rapidly made obsolescent the old fetch-as-fetch-can colonial postal system which rural dwellers had been forced to rely upon until that time. Its name was Rural Free Delivery, soon abbreviated to RFD.

The first appropriation of $40,000 was applied to establishing eighty-two "experimental" RFD routes in twenty-nine states to test the new system under all types of weather

and road conditions. This took six months from the start on October 1, 1896.

New Jersey was not represented in this initial group but it did receive four routes near the very end of the next appropriation for fiscal 1897-1898. Three of these were started in Moorestown on June 5th and one was started from nearby Riverton on June 13, 1898.

There is no clue now, sixty years later, as to why Burlington rather than any other predominantly agricultural county was selected for these initial New Jersey routes. It must have been offered certain typical farm and rural characteristics that made it suitable for the trial routes. In addition it may have had a very interested and active Member of Congress who sponsored the routes and worked hard to get them approved for his constituents!

The next rural routes to be activated from the new 1898-99 budget were:

Route No.	*Post Office*	*County*	*Inaugurated*
1	Chatham	Morris	November 1, 1898
1	Washington	Warren	November 1, 1898
1	Marlton	Burlington	December 1, 1898
1	Palmyra	Burlington	December 1, 1898
1	Mount Laurel	Burlington	January 1, 1899
4	Moorestown	Burlington	April 13, 1899

In the next two years more new rural routes were started in other counties including Sussex, Camden, Gloucester, Hunterdon, and Cumberland. By June 30, 1903, 184 petitions for routes had been filed with the Post Office Department. Of these, 136 routes had been approved and were in operation, 25 petitions were still pending and 23 had been denied. By December 1, 1904, another 30 routes had been started, making a total of 166 from 90 post offices, as detailed in the following list compiled from the New Jersey section of the 1905 *Post Office Guide:*

Bergen
2 Allendale
1 Englewood
1 Hackensack
1 Midland Park
2 Ridgewood
2 Westwood
9 (6 offices)

Burlington
1 Beverly
3 Burlington
2 Columbus
2 Jobstown
1 Kinkora
3 Marlton
3 Medford
5 Moorestown
3 Mount Holly
1 Mount Laurel
1 Palmyra
1 Riverside
2 Riverton
2 Vincentown
30 (14 offices)

Camden
1 Berlin
1 Haddonfield
1 Laurel Springs
1 Merchantville
1 Mt. Ephraim
1 Sicklerville
6 (6 offices)

Cape May
1 Tuckahoe

Cumberland
6 Bridgeton
6 Vineland
12 (2 offices)

Essex
1 Caldwell
1 Orange
2 (2 offices)

Gloucester
1 Clarksboro
1 Franklinville
3 Mullica Hill
2 Newfield
2 Paulsboro
5 Sewell
3 Swedesboro
1 Thorofare
18 (8 offices)

Hunterdon
1 Bloomsbury
1 Milford
1 Pattenburg
2 Pittstown
5 (4 offices)

Mercer
1 Hightstown
3 Princeton
2 Robbinsville
3 Trenton
9 (4 offices)

Middlesex
4 Cranbury
2 Jamesburg

1 Monmouth Jct.
6 New Brunswick
13 (4 offices)

Monmouth
2 Asbury Park
2 Englishtown
1 Red Bank
5 (3 offices)

Morris
2 Boonton
2 Chatham
2 Dover
1 Montville
2 Morristown
1 Newfoundland
2 Whippany
12 (7 offices)

Ocean
1 Tuckerton

Passaic
1 Paterson

Salem
5 Elmer
3 Monroeville
1 Pedricktown
1 Pennsgrove
2 Salem
2 Woodstown
14 (6 offices)

Somerset
1 Bellemead
1 Boundbrook
1 Millstone
1 Somerville
4 (4 offices)

Sussex
1 Lafayette
2 Newton
1 Sussex
4 (3 offices)

Union
2 Plainfield
3 Rahway
5 (2 offices)

Warren
1 Belvidere
1 Blairstown
1 Bridgeville
1 Broadway
1 Danville
2 Delaware
1 Oxford
2 Phillipsburg
1 Port Murray
2 Stewartsville
1 Townsbury
1 Washington
15 (12 offices)

It is not surprising to note that Burlington County maintained its leadership with the greatest number of routes; but the honor for the highest number of routes from a single post office went to New Brunswick in Middlesex County where six routes were put in operation. Only Hudson and Atlantic counties, of the twenty-one in the state, were not given routes in this early period.

The setting up of a new route was a very detailed project carried out by an inspector assigned to the distributing post office. It was his task to make a map of the entire route to be traversed and to mark on it every road, bridged stream, and dwelling. Totals of mileage traveled, number of dwellings, and total population to be served were also compiled. He also required the carrier to keep complete and accurate daily statistics on the different kinds of mail he collected and delivered along his route.

Inherent in the earliest planning of the RFD system had been the provision for the collection of rural mails too and, strangely, it was the *collection* rather than the *delivery* phase that publicized the system. This was done through the artful use of a special group of postal markings applied to the first-class mail that was channelled through that system.

Beginning in December, 1899, with the inauguration of the RFD system all over Carroll County, Maryland, the Department had furnished a type of small canceller for the use of each rural carrier in postmarking mail he collected for delivery later along his own route. Effective August 1, 1900, the Postmaster General's Order No. 875 required carriers to cancel *all* mail collected on their routes and he authorized a special canceller for this purpose. It was the same size and design as already in use in Maryland.

This was rectangular in shape, about 3¼ inches long, a scant 1 inch wide and ½ inch thick. It had a deep trench into which the carrier set the movable rubber type for each date. The other hard-rubber letters were affixed to a pressed cork foundation. A small folding

ring handle was soldered to the top.

The handstamp was carried face down in a small brass shell, with a narrow strip of inked felt at the bottom upon which the idicia side of the device rested. The whole fitted neatly into the carrier's palm when in use and was conveniently carried in his pocket at other times. Several of the earliest carriers interviewed in other states confided that they were so proud of this little postmarking device that they usually carried it with them because it might have been "lifted" had it been left at the post office. Their real excuse for removing it from the office was that they frequently had time to cancel their collected items while the horse jogged along between boxes or on the way back to the base office.

In the beginning the use of the handstamp facilitated all record-keeping for the routes. Thus it proved the increase of business and justified the discontinuance of many of the smallest fourth-class post offices as a result of the mushrooming RFD system, all pointing toward necessary annual increases in the post office budget to effect still further expansion of the RFD system.

The author has never seen any of the New Jersey cancellers. although some may eventually be found in the families of decendants of those pioneer carriers who used them. (She is the very happy possessor of the canceller that was used for several years in her home town of Medfield, Mass.)

This unique device made an oblong impression consisting of two parts. The left side contained four lines: R.F.D. / name of distributing post office / complete date / state (usually abbreviated). The righthand section consisted of five thin narrowly-spaced lines with the route number bisecting the middle three.

Illustrated is a choice cover from the author's collection containing a marking for route number three in Moorestown, one of the first started in New Jersey. No marking has as yet been reported for the first Riverton route.

The style of the postmarking device was altered somewhat for routes started after January, 1902. The canceller section contained but four heavy lines and the name of the office was dropped below the date. This style will be apparent in the markings for such routes as Clarksboro 1, Swedesboro 1 and 2, Mullica Hill 1 and 2, Englishtown 1 and 2, and Jobstown 1 and 2.

The furnishing of cancellers for new routes started on or after July, 1903, was discontinued at that time so, from then on, there is no identification of mail from new rural sources. However, RFD postmarks for the 136 routes started before that date are known to have been used for a few years afterwards.

Recorded specimen markings from New Jersey routes are only 14% of the known total possible. These are: Bellemead ?, Cranbury 2 and 3, Columbus 1, Englishtown ?, Medford ?, Moorestown 1 and 3, Morristown ?, *Moulton 1, Mullica Hill 2, Monroeville 1 and 3, *Morrison 4, *Old Bridge 1, Palmyra 2,

Phillipsburg ?, Pittstown 1, Ramsey 1 Sussex 1, Vincentown 2 and Westwood ?. (The "?" indicates route number is missing; the asterisk [*] means route discontinued before 1905 *Guide* list quoted above.)

The social and economic changes that resulted from the efficient functioning of this infant branch of the postal system were prompt, manifold, and permanent. The flow of population to farm areas increased because postal communication could now keep pace with it. Roads and transportation were improved. The price of farm land increased as it was made to produce in ever larger quantities the food so essential to an expanding nation. Newspaper and magazine circulations shot upward and farm families found the time to read, enjoy and learn from them. Mail order catalogs were read eagerly for news of equipment, furnishings and clothing to make farm living more productive, comfortable and enjoyable and the "communication circle" was completed when the rural carriers delivered the items that had been ordered from the catalogs they had delivered in the first place!

In fact, it would be impossible to estimate with any degree of accuracy the permanent benefits that the initiation of the RFD system has brought to New Jersey.

Those who may have old envelopes containing markings of New Jersey's RFD routes could materially assist in the documentation of the official data by reporting the specimens to the author in care of the PROCEEDINGS.

GENEALOGIST'S CORNER

FRED SHELLEY

Below is the final contribution to the PROCEEDINGS *prepared by Mr. Shelley while he was still librarian of the New Jersey Historical Society. Because of space limitations in previous issues, its publication has been delayed. It is hoped that some means can be found to continue the "Genealogist's Corner."*

THE New Jersey Historical Society recently acquired a remarkable record of births in the Boonton area. The record was kept in a small volume by Dr. Marietta H. C. Woodruff from 1873 to 1900. Dr. Woodruff was born in 1837 in Morris County and was named Marietta H. Crane by her parents Benjamin and Barbara Crane. She married Christopher D. Woodruff in 1861. In 1874 she was graduated from the New York Medical College for Women.

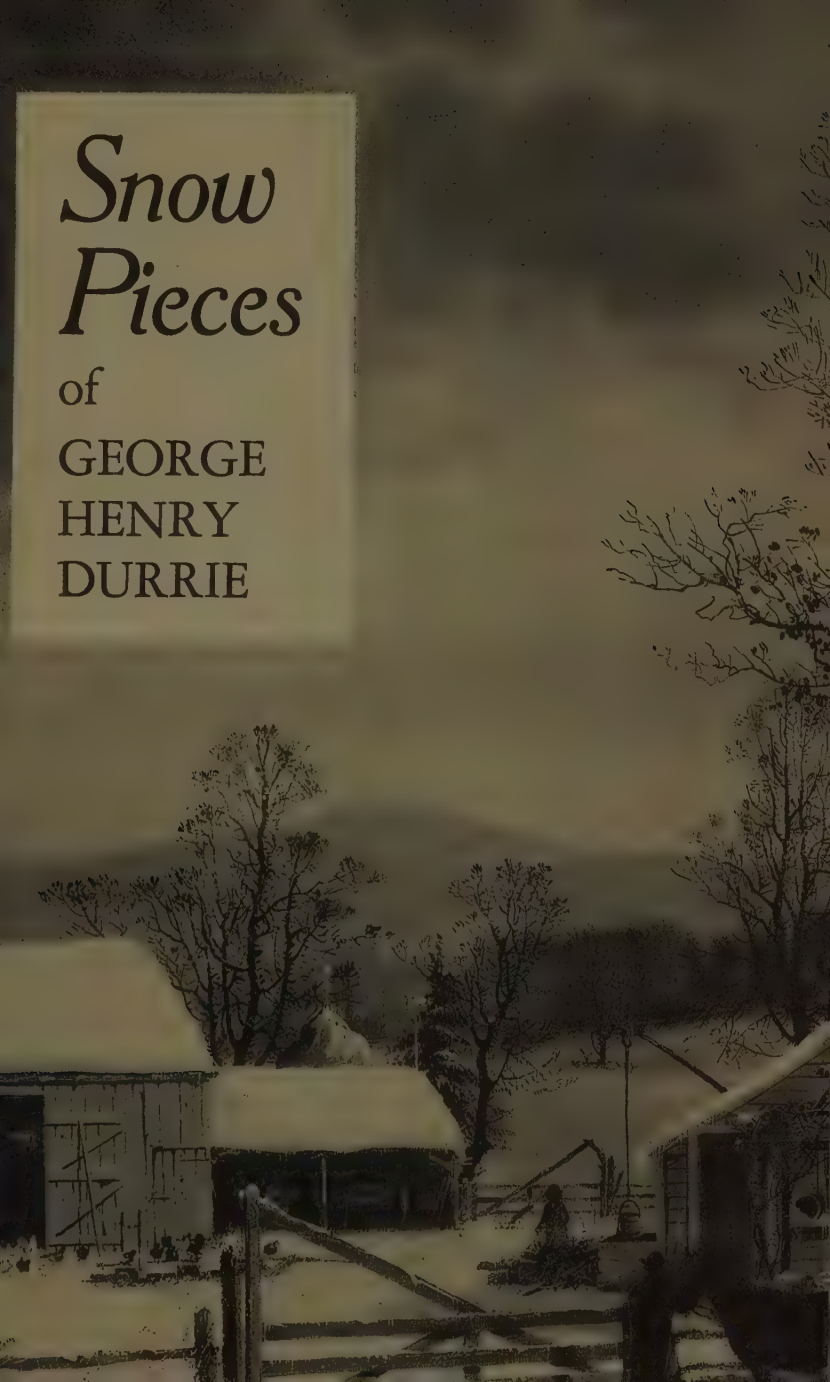
Dr. Woodruff took the time and trouble to note names and ages of parents, the number of children previously born to them, and some medical facts concerning the delivery. A student of medical history may find these facts of value, and certainly persons interested in genealogy of Morris County will wish to consult it. To make the information more readily accessible and spare hard wear on the original old book, the Society will soon index on cards in the Biographical File the names of the 605 children and their parents. The original volume may be consulted, when it is necessary, by persons who come to the library to do genealogical research.

This interesting volume, together with certain other documents relating to the Crane family in New Jersey, is the gift of the Bernard and Rose Memorial Fund established last year to permit the Society to buy materials not otherwise available.

Snow Pieces

of

GEORGE HENRY DURRIE



George Henry Durrie's Snow Pieces

A LOAN EXHIBITION

Thursday, February 5, to Saturday, March 14, 1959 at The New Jersey Historical Society

According to extant records, George Henry Durrie made first mention of his "snow pieces" in 1844, at the time he sent two of them to an exhibition at the New Haven Horticultural Society. In those two paintings the young artist found his most popular subjects. For the next nineteen years until his death many of his pictures were the country and farm winter scenes so familiar to us in the prints of Currier & Ives. None of the artists whose designs were used by that great firm of lithographers has caught more surely and sympathetically those homely views from bygone days for which there is now such national nostalgia and admiration.

The paternal grandfather of the artist had been born in England, emigrated to America, and settled in Hartford, Connecticut. There he married Mary Steele, a descendant of William Bradford, signer of the Mayflower Compact and a governor of the Plymouth Colony. Their son John was also married there to Clarissa Clark in 1815 and three years later the young Durries moved to New Haven. For years until his death in 1857 John Durrie was a partner in a bookshop. Of his six children the second son was named George Henry, born June 6, 1820. A younger son, William Augustus, became the first homeopath in Hudson County, New Jersey, practicing for many years in Jersey City. He had no known artistic talents.

THE NEW JERSEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
230 Broadway, Newark, N.J. / open Tuesday through Saturday
10 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. except holidays

George was not the only artist of the family. With his brother John, his senior by two years, he began the study of painting in 1839 with the noted Connecticut portrait painter, Nathaniel Jocelyn, and for a number of years thereafter Durrie devoted himself quite steadily to the art of portraiture. He launched his career in his native New Haven but made a number of painting excursions through the years that took him as far afield as Petersburg, Virginia. His first trips, however, were about the state, to Hartford and Meriden, to Naugatuck and Bethany. In 1840 he also went to paint in Monmouth County, New Jersey, but what prompted his going there is not known. In Freehold and Keyport in 1840 and 1841 he painted numerous portraits. On his return to Connecticut in 1841 he married Sarah Perkins of Bethany, whom he had met there previously through their mutual interest in singing. At the time of their marriage, September 14, 1841, George joined the Episcopal Church where at choir practice he had met the girl who became his wife.

The young artist, escorting his wife, then returned to Monmouth County, New Jersey, to paint under the patronage of Judge James S. Lawrence. Durrie's income was derived not only from the fees of five to fifteen dollars for his portraits but also from varnishing and altering paintings and decorating window shades. Throughout part of 1842 the Durries remained in New Jersey then returned to New Haven before a son, George Boice Durrie, was born in October. This was thereafter to be their home and the following year the *New Haven Palladium* carried the notice that "G. H. Durrie, having taken the room No. 13 Phoenix Building, would be pleased to wait upon those who may be desirous of obtaining faithful and correct likenesses." Perhaps this was the same year he first exhibited publicly; one portrait was shown at the National Academy of Design and two others at the New Haven Horticultural Society. In 1844 two "snow pieces" were shown and the following year were shown again. On this second showing Durrie was awarded a second prize of a silver palette by the Horticultural Society.

At this same period Durrie was off again on several trips: to New Jersey, New York state, and Petersburg, Virginia where he sold his portraits quite readily but not his "snow pieces." At this time he received twenty to thirty dollars for a portrait. He began

painting the scenes in greater numbers as time passed and in 1854, after opening a new studio, had a sale of "WINTER SCENES of a size suited to the parlor or drawing room . . . "

The year 1857 was eventful for Durrie. After his father's death he moved into Temple Street and thereafter had his studio in an addition to the house. He also went to New York and sent in two winter scenes to the National Academy. Perhaps he then made his contact with Currier & Ives. In any event, 1857 was indeed the year when the winter scenes definitely supplanted the portraits as the works by Durrie attracting the attention and the admiration of the public. He had at last seen his favorite subjects accepted, if only in a modest way.

In the last six years of his life, Durrie painted the finest of his scenes. The paintings sold at the time for perhaps thirty-five dollars; at least a number of them sold at public auction in New York in 1862 brought that amount as an average. This was the period in which Currier & Ives began to publish the large folio lithographs after the paintings. Of the ten published by that firm, four appeared in Durrie's lifetime. *New England Winter Scene* and *The Farm-Yard in Winter* were produced in 1861; *The Farmer's Home — Winter* and *Winter Morning — Feeding the Chickens* in 1863. Four more followed in 1864, one in 1866, and the famous *Home to Thanksgiving* in 1867. It is interesting to note parenthetically that these large folio lithographs were published at three dollars; the remainders of the firm were sold nearly fifty years later in 1907 for five dollars; and in fifty more years in 1958 *Home to Thanksgiving* brought twenty-one hundred dollars. Four prints were published by three other houses.

George Henry Durrie died after a long illness at the untimely age of forty-three on October 15, 1863. He was survived by his wife, two sons, and one daughter. His personal property complete was valued at no more than $1858, his real estate at $5500. Certainly the value of the man is to be found elsewhere.

Although his contemporaries at best did not seal Durrie's success as an artist, those who knew him held him in high value as a man of sterling character. They knew him as a simple retiring, modest man who most of all cherished his love for his family and his home. His daughter too remembered her father's warm and lovable character when writing of him sixty years after his death.

He himself had written, "I feel that it is happiness to spend my evenings at home with my wife and family around me . . . All is peace, contentment and enjoyment." His obituary in the New Haven *Daily Palladium* reads, "From his rare modesty, which has led him to shrink from society, and his devotion to home, many who have long been familiar with the genial face of the artist, have known little of the inner life and spirit of the man." His family, his art, his church, and his music — for he had a fine tenor voice—were his whole world.

Perhaps we today, a century later, who place high artistic value on the paintings, especially the "snow pieces," are attracted to them not only by the nostalgic sentiment they evoke, and their straightforward craftsmanship, but also because we can sense in them the fine and homely qualities of the character of the man who created them. His choice of subjects themselves bespeaks his simple, unassuming qualities. These forms of country scenes and activities he clothed in the mantle of winter, thus giving them the beauty he saw them so justly deserving. As he wrote in his journal in the winter of 1844-45, "The tree sparkling with icy limbs, made the scene almost enchanting . . . The weather has been rather cold, especially towards night, when it was quite blustering. The ground, trees, etc. were completely covered with ice, which, glittering in the sun, looked beautiful."

The Society especially appreciates the privilege of having this loan exhibition of paintings from the collection of Mr. and Mrs. P. H. B. Frelinghuysen of Morristown. The paintings are supplemented with several prints by Currier & Ives based on them.

The writer of this sketch and catalogue is deeply indebted to Miss Bartlett Cowdrey of Passaic, archivist, New York Area, Archives of American Art, who generously permitted him to draw so freely on her essay "George Henry Durrie, 1820-1863" in the catalogue of the splendid exhibition of Durrie's works at the Wadsworth Atheneum, Hartford, in 1947. Miss Cowdrey, Mrs. Ruth Davidson of Antiques Magazine, and Mr. Harry Shaw Newman of the Old Print Shop are all thanked for their helpful suggestions and for reading this paper.

ROBERT M. LUNNY.

CATALOGUE

1. The Pasture Gate. Oil on panel 17 x 13⅞. Signed and dated on back: *G H Durrie/April 1852(?).*
2. Going To Church. Oil on canvas 22 x 30. Illustrated.
3. Winter Farm Scene. Oil on canvas 18 x 24. Signed l. l.: *G H Durrie.*
4. Boys Skating. Oil on cardboard, oval 7½ x 9½. Initialed: *G H D.*
5. Farmyard In Winter, Selling Corn. Oil on panel 19¾ x 24. Signed l. r.: *Durrie/1857(?).*
6. Sunset Mount Carmel, Connecticut. Oil on cardboard 11¾ x 15¾.
7. Woodsman In Winter. Oil on canvas 18 x 24. Signed l. l.: *Durrie.*
8. Red School House. Oil on canvas 26 x 36. Signed and dated l. l.: *Durrie/1858.* Illustrated.
9. New England Winter Scene. Oil on canvas 18 x 24. Signed and dated l. r.: *G H Durrie/1858.* Lithographed by Currier & Ives, 1861.
10. The Farmyard In Winter. Oil on cardboard 10¾ x 18. Lithographed by Currier & Ives, 1861. Illustrated.
11. Winter Scene. Oil on canvas 26 x 36. Signed and dated l. r.: *G H Durrie/N. Haven/1859.*
12. Farmstead In Winter. Oil on canvas 12 x 18. Signed and dated l. r.: *G H Durrie/1860.*
13. Farm Scene, Summer. Oil on canvas 15 x 25¼. Signed and dated on back: *G H Durrie/1860.*
14. Winter Landscape. Oil on canvas 25½ x 35½. Signed and dated l. r.: *G H Durrie/1860.*
15. Jones' Inn. Oil on canvas 22 x 30¼. Signed l. l.: *G H Durrie/N. Haven.* Illustrated.
16. Ten Miles To Salem. Oil on canvas 15⅛ x 25¼.
17. Summer Landscape. Oil on canvas 21¾ x 30. Signed and dated l. l.: *G H Durrie/1862.* Illustrated.
18. Winter In The Country, A Cold Morning. Oil on canvas 26 x 36. Signed and dated l. r.: *Durrie/1862.* Lithographed by Currier & Ives, 1864. Illustrated.
19. Winter Scene, A Cold Morning. Oil on panel 12½ x 16⅛.
20. Winter In The Country, The Old Grist Mill. Oil on canvas 26 x 36¼. Signed and dated l. r.: *G H Durrie/1862.* Lithographed by Currier & Ives, 1864. Illustrated.
21. Winter In The Country, Distant Hills. Oil on canvas 21½ x 30.
22. The Ox Sledge. Oil on canvas 11⅞ x 14⅞. Signed l. r.: *G H Durrie.*
23. Cider Making. Oil on panel 11⅜ x 19¼ sight size.
24. Watering The Cattle. Oil on canvas 21½ x 30¼.
25. Gathering Wood. Oil on canvas 18 x 24. Signed l. l.: *Durrie/N. Haven.*

The Currier & Ives large folio lithographs of 9, 10, 18, and 20 are also shown. Illustrated are 9, 2, 8, 15, 17, 18, and 20, in that order.

Annual Report for 1958

THE one hundred thirteenth annual meeting of the New Jersey Historical Society was held at the building of the Society, 230 Broadway, Newark, New Jersey, at 12 noon on Wednesday, October 29, 1958. Harry O. H. Frelinghuysen, president of the Society, presided and Robert M. Lunny, director, acting as secretary of the meeting, kept the minutes. The Rev. Dr. Charles L. Reynolds delivered the invocation.

The calling of the roll was waived, and the secretary reported that a quorum was present. The minutes of the annual meeting of 1957, published in the PROCEEDINGS of the New Jersey Historical Society, Volume LXXVI, Number 1, January 1958, were approved without reading.

The president announced that the first order of business was the election of officers for a three-year term. A Nominating Committee was appointed, composed of Charles B. Bradley, chairman, Mrs. Richard Hartshorne, and the Hon. John O. Bigelow. While the Nominating Committee met, the report of the Board of Trustees was read by the secretary.

The chairman of the Nominating Committee submitted its report, nominating Dominic A. Cavicchia, John T. Cunningham, Wilson C. Ely, Mrs. Frederick Frelinghuysen, Charles C. Gardner, William A. Hughes, Rt. Rev. Msgr. James F. Kelley, Richard V. Lindabury, Dr. Richard P. McCormick, Henry W. Pilch, Reeve Schley and Thomas T. Taber to be re-elected as members of the class of 1961, to serve for a period of three years or until their successors shall be elected and qualified. The president thanked the members of the Nominating Committee. The nominations were seconded. It was moved and seconded that the nominations be closed. It was moved, seconded, and voted that the secretary cast a ballot and, accordingly, the foregoing were elected unanimously.

The following additional reports were submitted: the Treasurer's read by the secretary in the absence of Frederick Frelinghuysen; Finance Committee by Frederick H. Groel, chairman; Membership Committee by the Hon. John O. Bigelow, chairman; House Committee by Dominic A. Cavicchia, chairman; Library Committee by Richard V. Lindabury, chairman; Museum Committee by Mrs. Frederick Frelinghuysen, chairman, followed by her report as president of the Woman's Branch; Editorial Committee by Donald A. Sinclair, chairman; and the report of the corresponding secretary, Mrs. Joseph W. Greene.

John T. Cunningham presented the following resolution which was carried unanimously:

RESOLUTION

Adopted at the Annual Meeting of
THE NEW JERSEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Wednesday, October 29, 1958

Hiram Edmund Deats of Flemington Junction has dedicated most of a long and useful life to the pursuit of historical facts and to the compilation of genealogical data. He has fanned the flame of historical interest in Hunterdon County through his many activities, both as an individual and as a member of the Hunterdon County Historical Society and as the Society's secretary from 1905 to 1955. All persons interested in history — be they school youngsters, teachers, genealogists, historians or writers — always have received encouragement and assistance from Mr. Deats. He widened his scope of aid and influence by accepting appointment as a trustee of The New Jersey Historical Society on October 28, 1908, and has served continuously and conscientiously since that date.

Therefore be it resolved that The New Jersey Historical Society takes this opportunity to express sincere thanks to Mr. Deats for fifty years and one day of service to the Society, and to extend to him the thanks and best wishes of the many people who have benefited from his scholarship, his generous sharing of historical knowledge and his never-failing fund of good humor.

A copy of this resolution is to be spread upon the minutes and a copy is to be sent to Mr. Deats.

The chairman introduced Lute Pease as the guest of the Society, whose exhibition of his cartoons from 1914 to 1952 opened today in honor of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the *Newark Evening News*. He also announced the loan exhibition of early views of the Great Falls, entitled "Falls of the Passaic," largely from the collection of Harold J. Dahl and George Connor. This exhibition, the first for which a catalogue has been published by the Society, opened the Little Gallery on the second floor.

There being no further business, the meeting recessed at 1 P.M. for luncheon to reconvene at 2 o'clock.

When the meeting reconvened, Harold J. Dahl spoke on "Passaic Falls Rediscovered — Adventures of a New Jersey Collector," to be published in the forthcoming issue of the PROCEEDINGS.

At the conclusion of this excellent talk, the meeting was adjourned.

ROBERT M. LUNNY, *Director.*

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

PREVIOUS annual reports of the Board of Trustees to the members of the New Jersey Historical Society have been detailed and complete in themselves. At the annual meeting these have been followed by the reports of the treasurer and the several Trustees' committees. This practice has resulted in considerable duplication. To avoid such repetition, this report will include only such facts as do not appear in the other reports.

At the beginning of the year Dr. Richard P. McCormick announced his decision not to stand for reelection as president. This announcement,

received so regretfully, was the first of a number of changes among the officers. The trustees elected Harry O. H. Frelinghuysen, Far Hills, as president. Also elected an officer was Richard V. Lindabury, Princeton, as third vice-president, replacing Frederick H. Groel, whose intention not to serve again was also received with regret.

Six new trustees were elected to the Board: Mrs. Joseph S. Frelinghuysen, Far Hills; Mrs. Richard Hartshorne, East Orange; C. Merrill Chapin, Far Hills; Kenneth Chorley, Hopewell; Horace K. Corbin, Llewellyn Park; and W. Clark Symington, Newark. We are fortunate in having having such a splendid group serving as our new officers and trustees.

As the year ended the resignation of the Rt. Rev. Benjamin M. Washburn was received. Soon after his retirement as Bishop of Newark on October 31, the Bishop and Mrs. Washburn will move to their new home in Connecticut. They will be very much missed by their friends; the Bishop will be missed also as a loyal and helpful officer of the Society.

Staff changes are noted in the Committee reports.

The year was marked by determined efforts to gain greater publicity for the activities of the Society. One member generously donated 10,000 copies of the brochure *Your New Jersey Historical Society*. Prepared by the firm of Fulling & Douglass, Inc., which was retained by the Society until last January, this illustrated pamphlet was first distributed at the New Jersey Dinner in May.

Also the first issue of a new Society publication made its appearance in September. The *New Jersey Messenger,* an informally written newsletter containing announcements of Society events and brief popular historical articles, will be published three times each season, autumn, winter and spring, edited by the director. Members are urged to notice carefully the events announced in the *Messenger* and to keep them as reminders. Both the brochure and the newsletter are proving effective in enlisting new members.

Two more publications other than the PROCEEDINGS appeared. One was a folder on the New Jersey Transportation exhibition; also produced by Fulling & Douglass, Inc.; the other, the first exhibition catalogue published in the history of the Society, *Falls of the Passaic.*

These four new publications, the stickers on bus windows advertising special exhibitions and the car cards for which Public Service Coordinated Transport so generously donated the space are all helping to bring the Society before a wider public. There has also been close cooperation with the editor and the staff of *Antiques,* a cooperation which contributed in some measure to the October issue of the magazine, largely devoted to New Jersey. The exhibition on the Great Falls of the Passaic, for which we are so much in the debt of Mr. Harold J. Dahl and Mr. George Connor, opened on the date of publication of the October issue, which contains an article on that subject by them. The cooperation of that excellent magazine is gratefully acknowledged.

Several steps have been taken to enable the Society more effectively to contribute to the education of New Jersey youth in the history of the state. An Education Committee was created under the chairmanship of John T. Cunningham. One project being planned is the publication of a series of pamphlets on New Jersey life and history. It is hoped that eventually these illustrated pamphlets will appear in textbook form. This project is still in the plannning and ways-and-means stage.

A more immediate education problem is that of finding volunteer assistance so that a larger number of visiting school classes can be accommodated on their trips to the Museum. A request to a chapter of the Junior League was pending at the year's end and we hope for a favorable reply before long.

One reason for the need for this additional help is the two contests of the Society of which advance announcement was made in the *New Jersey Messenger*. The formal announcement of these contests will be made at the forthcoming convention of the New Jersey Education Association, when Mr. Cunningham speaks before the teachers of social studies.

The one contest for visiting school classes is sponsored by that inestimable organization, the Woman's Branch; the other for older students is sponsored by Dr. Samuel Berg through the Bernard and Rose Berg Memorial Fund. Books constitute the prizes for the best essays and posters submitted by the young visitors. For the older students all winners are invited on an historical tour of the state next spring, with all expenses defrayed by interested parties, and will receive savings bonds, books and Society memberships as their other prizes.

The second New Jersey Dinner was held at the Princeton Inn last May, with a reception beforehand by Governor and Mrs. Robert B. Meyner at Morven. The great success of the evening was due to the earnest interest and work of those involved. Recipient of the New Jersey Historical Society Award, presented at the dinner, was Mrs. Kathryn Burch Greywacz, director of the State Museum. Speaker of the evening was Dr. Roy F. Nichols, vice-provost of the University of Pennsylvania. Election of Dr. Richard P. McCormick as the first Fellow of the Society was announced. The chairman was Hon. Archibald S. Alexander.

The last event of the season of 1957-1958 was the Eighth Annual New Jersey Historical Conference held in June in conjunction with the Bergen County Historical Society on the Teaneck campus of Fairleigh Dickinson University followed by a tea at the von Steuben House in North Hackensack. The local society was largely responsible for the excellent program and its arrangement. For the first time, the Museums Council of New Jersey, of which the director is chairman, participated by presenting a workshop on methods for the small museum. The single complaint on the conference was made only recently, from a lady who objected to concurrent sessions on the museum methods and on the historical society

and the student. She has, as she said, yet to master the art of being here and there at the same time.

There are so many, both individuals and organizations, to whom the Board wishes to express its appreciation for their generous and enthusiastic support, it is impossible to name them all. There are two groups, however, who must be noted especially: the Woman's Branch, always willing to help so often in so many ways, and the Railrodians of America for their generosity and work on the New Jersey Transportation exhibition, our popular first industrial exhibit.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

I SUBMIT herewith the Society's balance sheet as of the end of, and operating statement for, the fiscal year ended September 30, 1958, with comparative figures for the preceding fiscal year, from which I summarize in round figures.

Balance Sheet

The Unrestricted Fund has a net worth of $481,000—a decrease from last year of $7,500, which represents a $900 transfer to the Library and Museum Fund and a $7,800 operating loss, offset by $1,300 of realized gains on Investments.

The Endowment Fund has a net worth of $61,400—approximately the same as last year.

The Library and Museum Fund has a net worth of $4,700—an increase of $1,500, which represents the excess of the aforesaid transfer, donations and proceeds of sales of books and archives over the cost of acquisitions.

The Publication Fund has a net worth of $5,100—approximately the same as last year, but reflecting the cost of printing, and the receipts from sales of, *Guides to the Manuscript Collection.*

The Woman's Branch Fund has a net worth of $2,900—the same as last year.

Operating Statement

Our operating income for the year was $39,600 as compared with $36,400 for the preceding year. The increase is reflected in increases of $1,000 in Dues and $3,600 in Donations.

Our Operating Expenses for the year were $47,500, as compared with $40,600 during the preceding year, most of the increase being reflected in the Payroll and Public Relations expense.

As a result, the Operating Loss for the year was $7,800, as compared with $4,200 last year—an increase of $3,600.

FREDERICK FRELINGHUYSEN, *Treasurer.*

BALANCE SHEET

As of September 30, 1958 and 1957

Unrestricted Fund

Assets

		1958		1957
Cash in Banks	$ 2,407		$ 7,214	
Investments	68,459		72,639	
Library & Museum				
Land & building	358,039		358,039	
Equipment	52,293		52,293	
Contents	1		1	
Total		$480,999		$490,186

Liabilities and Net Worth

Liabilities		$ —0—		$ 1,700
Net Worth:				
Balance Oct. 1, 1957 & 1956	$488,486		$491,755	
Add:				
Gain in investments	1,306		6	
Donation	—0—		906	
	489,792		$492,667	
Deduct:				
Transfer to L. & M. Fund	$ 946			
Operating Loss	7,847	8,793	4,181	
Balance Sept. 30, 1958 & 1957		$480,999		488,486
Total		$480,999		$490,186

Endowment Fund

Assets

Cash in banks	$ 4,165		$ 3,769	
Investments	57,289		57,601	
Total		$ 61,454		$ 61,370

	Net Worth			
Balance Oct. 1, 1957 & 1956	$ 61,370		$ 61,165	
Add:				
Life membership dues	250		250	
	$ 61,620		$ 61,415	
Deduct:				
Loss on Investments	166*		45*	
Balance Sept. 30, 1958 & 1957		$ 61,454		$ 61,370

LIBRARY AND MUSEUM FUND

	Assets			
Cash in Bank	$ 4,683	$ 4,683	$ 3,158	$ 3,158
	Net Worth			
Balance Oct. 1, 1957 & 1956	$ 3,158		$ 2,498	
Add:				
Donation	936		406	
Transfer from Unr. Fund	946			
Interest	118		78	
Sale of Books & Archives	1,591		1,050	
	$ 6,749		$ 4,032	
Deduct:				
Cost of Acquisitions	2,066	$ 4,683	874	$ 3,158
Balance Sept. 30, 1958 & 1957		$ 4,683		$ 3,158

PUBLICATION FUND

	Assets			
Cash in bank		$ 5,086		$ 5,061
	Net Worth			
Balance Oct. 1, 1957 & 1956	$ 5,061		$ —0—	
Add:				
Donations	—0—		5,000	
Sales	517		—0—	
Interest	149		61	
Interest	$ 5,727		$ 5,061	
Deduct:				
Cost of *Guides*	641		—0—	
Balance Sept. 30, 1958 & 1957		$ 5,086		$ 5,061

*Red.

WOMAN'S BRANCH FUND

Assets

Cash in Bank	$ 30	$ 30
Investments	2,830	2,830
Total	$ 2,860	$ 2,860

Net Worth

Balance Oct. 1, 1957 & 1956	$ 2,860	$ 2,860
Balance Sept. 30, 1958 & 1957	$ 2,860	$ 2,860

OPERATING STATEMENT FOR THE YEARS ENDED
September 30, 1958 and 1957

INCOME	1958	1957
Investments	$10,874	$10,622
Dues	10,144	9,166
Donations	8,436	4,792
PROCEEDINGS	4,210	4,177
Proceeds of annual New Jersey Historical Society Dinner	5,865	7,523
Miscellaneous	82	107
Total Receipts	$39,611	$36,387
EXPENSES		
Payroll, Pension and Payroll Taxes	$28,835	$25,587
Insurance	170	331
Administrative	2,716	2,450
Library and Museum	983	748
Exhibits and education	233	151
Building operations	4,349	4,071
Building repairs	1,044	1,599
PROCEEDINGS	4,651	4,184
Audit and investment	443	447
Public relations	4,034	1,000
Total expenses	$47,458	$40,568
Operating deficit	$ 7,847	$ 4,181

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS
Book Values as of September 30, 1958
UNRESTRICTED FUND

Shares	*Stocks*	
600	American Insurance Co., common	$ 9,875
50	American Telephone & Telegraph Co., capital	8,451

500	Continental Oil Co., common	3,860
340	Continental Insurance Co., common	7,100
200	Phillips Petroleum Co., common	7,341
300	The Southern Company, common	6,155
600	Standard Oil Co. of New Jersey, common	6,859
816	Texas Corporation, common	10,508
200	Union Carbide Corp., common	8,110
	Total Investments	$68,259

ENDOWMENT FUND

Bonds

$3,000	Atcheson, Topeka and Santa Fe 4's 1995	$ 2,744
3,500	Deere & Co., 4½'s, 8/1/83	3,509
5,000	Morris and Essex R.R. Co., 3½'s, 2000	2,063
Shares	*Stocks*	
75	Allied Stores, 4% cumulative, preferred	7,500
400	Beneficial Finance Corp., common $1 par	6,774
50	Bethlehem Steel Corp., 7% preferred	7,293
25	Burlington Industries, 4% preferred	2,521
100	Oklahoma Natural Gas Co., 4¾% preferred	5,400
200	Southern California Edison Co., original 5% cumulative participating preferred	9,200
100	Tennessee Gas Transmission Co., $5.10 preferred	10,285
	Total Investments	$57,289

WOMAN'S BRANCH FUND

20	Bethlehem Steel Corp., 7% preferred	$ 2,830
	Total Investments	$ 2,830

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

THE Finance Committee of the Board of Trustees submits the following report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 1958.

Unrestricted Fund

Through declaration of a stock dividend, 16 shares of common stock of Texas Corporation were received. As a result of a merger, 340 shares Continental Insurance Company common stock were received in exchange for 400 shares Firemen's Insurance Company common stock previously held. The Society's holdings of 100 shares Dayton Power and Light Company common stock as well as rights to purchase common stock of Standard Oil Company of New Jersey and American Telephone and Telegraph Company, were sold.

Endowment Fund

The Endowment Fund of the Society consists [illegible] Bonds and Mortgages as set forth in the annexed report of the Treasurer. The Life Members Fund was established by resolution.

Library Binding Fund

There was no expenditure during the year from the Library Binding Fund.

Income for the year ended [illegible] was [illegible] which has been added to the principal account of the endowment fund.

Respectfully submitted,

Frederick E. Hoag, Librarian.

REPORT OF THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

There were eighteen new members elected. There were also thirteen members who changed their classification during the year, leaving a net total. These membership activity is shown below:

	1917	1918
Patrons	[illegible]	[illegible]
Benefactors	[illegible]	[illegible]
Fellows	[illegible]	[illegible]
Members	[illegible]	[illegible]
Associates	[illegible]	[illegible]
Life	[illegible]	[illegible]
Honorary	[illegible]	[illegible]
Corresponding	[illegible]	[illegible]
Fellows of the Society	[illegible]	[illegible]
Institutional	[illegible]	[illegible]
	[illegible]	[illegible]

A resolution of appreciation should be made at once. The report is submitted to you. As a member I feel grateful that the duties have been [illegible] Members of every committee of the Five New Jersey Clubs [illegible] appeal [illegible] to them to continue their membership.

Mrs. Ella T. Wells, who served as [illegible] committee resigned December [illegible] to the committee on [illegible] work.

The committee [illegible] change the membership [illegible] those classes which are below par, but changes are [illegible] and not recommended.

John T. Bullock, Chairman.

NEW LIFE MEMBERS ADDED IN [illegible]

Associate (2)

Mrs. Russell Adams, Allegheny
Richard M. Armstrong, Rutherford
Alva E. Aston, Madison
Mrs. Lathrop Baker Jr., Texas
Mrs. H. W. Baldwin, Montclair
Mrs. Ann Dunbar, Newark
Jean E. Barnes, Upper Montclair
Donald Benedict, Port Jervis, N. Y.
George V. Bens, Lenox
Miss Mary L. Bergmann, Orange
East Orange Free Public Library
Mrs. William S. Bogdan, Elizabeth
Mrs. Ann Bonner, Madison
Kenneth Bonner, Chatham
Benjamin S. Bramwell, Summit
Miss Wilma L. Brogan, Montclair
Eugene M. Brown, Summit
Mrs. Robert F. Bunting, Montclair
Mrs. Hazel Bygrave, Big Lake, Texas
Miss Florence T. Cannon, East Orange
Truman S. Carson, Trenton
Miss Jane E. Case, East Orange
Morris J. Champion, Newark
Albert F. Chandler, Hackensack
Mrs. Albert Lane Chapman
Mrs. Benedict J. Clancy, Montclair
Mason E. Chilcott, Verona
Mrs. Lawrence J. Cooper, Bethany College
Mrs. Oliver W. Cromer, Washington, D. C.
Mrs. Samuel Cuttle, Bernardsville
Miss Lucy Dawson, Montclair
Mrs. W. E. Dewar, Verona
Mrs. George A. Dixon, Chatham
Miss Mary E. Dixon, Swedesboro, Penna.
Miss Lulu M. Drake, Washington, D. C.
Mrs. Robert F. Dickson, Washington, D. C.

Contributing (21)

Irene E. Brown, Newark
Doris I. Bolan, East Orange
Russel D. Bentley, Edgewater
Mrs. Donald Brown, Fox Hills
Mrs. Robert D. Carter, Bernardsville
Miss Bertha Cameron, Passaic
Mrs. William J. Chamberlin, Canonsburg, Penn.
Dudley Peck Chambers, Passaic
Theresa Dana Demarest, Hackensack
Jane D. Dodd, Montclair
Dr. Harold W. Dodds, Princeton
Mrs. Robert C. Ellis, Jr., Cedar
Walter C. Farrar, Ridgewood
Mrs. Jack G. Farrar, Riverside
Miss Caroline B. Fraser, Montclair
Mrs. Lawrence A. Frazer, Bethany College
Dr. Albert W. Fuller, Bernardsville
Mrs. Albert Lane Chapman
Mrs. Benedict J. Clancy, Montclair
Mason E. Chilcott, Verona
Mrs. Lawrence J. Cooper, Bethany College
Mrs. Oliver W. Cromer, Washington, D. C.
Mrs. Samuel Cuttle, Bernardsville
Miss Lucy Dawson, Montclair
Mrs. W. E. Dewar, Verona
Mrs. George A. Dixon, Chatham
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Mrs. George A. Dixon, Chatham
Miss Mary E. Dixon, Swedesboro, Penna.
Miss Lulu M. Drake, Washington, D. C.
Mrs. Robert F. Dickson, Washington, D. C.
Miss Caroline B. Fraser, Montclair
Mrs. Lawrence A. Frazer, Bethany College
Dr. Albert W. Fuller, Bernardsville
Mrs. Albert Lane Chapman
Mrs. Benedict J. Clancy, Montclair
Mason E. Chilcott, Verona
Mrs. Lawrence J. Cooper, Bethany College
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Mrs. George A. Dixon, Chatham
Miss Mary E. Dixon, Swedesboro, Penna.
Miss Lulu M. Drake, Washington, D. C.
Mrs. Robert F. Dickson, Washington, D. C.

Mrs. John Papp, Jr., Perth Amboy
Mrs. R. Stuyvesant Pierrepont, Princeton
Mrs. Frederick S. Polhemus, Princeton
Ramsey Historical Association, Ramsey
James M. Ramson, Westwood
Rev. Stewart M. Robinson, Elizabeth
Mrs. Stanley Schultz, West Orange
Daniel Ward Seitz, New York City
Edmund B. Shotwell, Maplewood
Miss Helen Sims, East Orange
Dinwiddie Smith, Morristown
A. W. Stender, Plainfield
Senator Richard R. Stout, W. Allenhurst
Theodore Thayer, Chatham
Arthur V. R. Tilton, Hartford, Conn.
Benjamin H. Trask, New York City
Miss Dorothy Turner, Cranford
David Otto Tyson, Mendham
Mrs. Edward Van Gieson, Port Jervis, N. Y.
Mrs. Joan B. Walsh, Glen Ridge
Joseph A. Ward, Newark
Mrs. Laurence C. Ward, Newark
John K. Watson, South Orange
Mrs. Harrison E. Wemett, Berkeley Heights
Edward R. Wolak, Clifton
Gustave A. Wuerfel, Glen Ridge
Mrs. Anne Zazzali, Newark

Family (37)

Mrs. Stevens Baird, Bernardsville
Dr. and Mrs. William H. Cole, New Brunswick
Mr. and Mrs. Clement K. Corbin, Summit
Mr. and Mrs. Russell G. Cory, Montclair
Mr. and Mrs. Oliver D. Filley, Jr., Far Hills
Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Fullam, Princeton
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph T. Gallagher, Bernardsville
Mr. and Mrs. William A. Hughes, Newark
Mr. and Mrs. George Lee, Nutley
Mr. and Mrs. Joel Y. Lund, Morristown
Mr. and Mrs. William M. McBride, Passaic
Mr. and Mrs. Clarence J. Rieman, Union City
Dr. and Mrs. H. A. Schulte, Newark
Mr. and Mrs. Walter E. Smith
Mr .and Mrs. Eldredge Snyder, New York City
Mr. and Mrs. Donald F. Wallace, Newark
Mr. and Mrs. Henry W. Webb, Little Falls
Dr. and Mrs. Robert R. White, West Orange
Dr. and Mrs. Earl LeRoy Wood, Newark

Sustaining (11)

Mrs. W. Palen Conway, Short Hills
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Suydam Cutting, Gladstone
Wilson C. Ely, Newark
Mr. and Mrs. Van R. Halsey, Rumson
Miss Elizabeth A. Huntington, Springfield

Mr. Henry Kreh, Jr., Elizabeth
Mr. and Mrs. Eli Sagan, Englewood
Dr. Anna R. Schults, Newark

Supporting (3)

Frederick H. Groel, West Orange
Dr. Henry H. Kessler, Newark
John M. Roebling, Harbourton

Life (1)

Mrs. James Crane Higgins, Montclair

Institutional (1)

Leslie Foundation, Lyndhurst

REPORT OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE

Upkeep of the Society's building is becoming a more onerous task for the House Committee and a more expensive undertaking for the Society itself. Whereas in past years the Committee's operations for the most part have involved maintenance of the structure's interior (the exterior requiring only occasional attention), repairs or replacements made or ordered during the year just ended, or under consideration during that period and not yet finally decided upon, emphasize the fact that time's wear and tear on the building are becoming suspect if not entirely evident.

At the year's end, several maintenance projects could be counted as completed or under way. A new hot water heater was installed in place of the old one, which had broken down. The furnace boiler, which had already been repaired for other reasons earlier in the year, developed two noticeably corroded and pitted tubes. When, after due investigation, it became certain that the other tubes, more than eighty in number, had outlasted the ordinary period of usefulness and that their replacement was imperative too, the entire set was ordered replaced at a cost of approximately $1200.

An auxiliary sump pump was installed in the basement. Arrangements were made for a new roof over the kitchen and for repairs to the building's main roof.

There was (and still is) before the House Committee a series of recommendations for waterproofing certain portions of the exterior of the building. This work, if decided upon as warranted, in part or wholly, will involve expenditures ranging from approximately $2100 to approximately $6000, depending on what part or parts of the recommended work is or are considered imperative. Because of their extraordinary nature, the recommendations were referred by the House Committee to the Executive Committee of the Society for instructions.

Other repairs provided for during the year are worthy of mention. The main vestibule was ordered to be replastered and painted. A leak in the heating system, in the New Jersey History Gallery, was ordered to be repaired. Arrangements were made for the painting of the fire escape at the rear of the building.

To the Woman's Branch must go the credit for the upkeep and improvement of the little gallery on the second floor and the Trustees' Room on the main floor. The cost of painting these areas of the building during the year just ended was borne by that organization. The House Committee records anew its gratitude for the continuing concern and generosity of the Woman's Branch in the maintenance of the building—a concern and a generosity which year after year have lessened the burden of the House Committee and of the Society itself.

The staff has apprised the House Committee that visitors have often remarked upon the clean condition of the building. The credit belongs, of course, to Mr. and Mrs. Dennis.

DOMINIC A. CAVICCHIA, *Chairman.*

REPORT OF THE LIBRARY COMMITTEE

WHEN the Library Committee reported, last October, that the library was suffering from a reduction in manpower, it did not expect the patient to take a turn for the worse before the next year was out.

In Mr. Fred Shelley we had a librarian whose three-year service had been of very great value to the Society and had held brilliant promise for the future. His departure on June 30th has put a heavy burden on the remainder of the staff, which now consists of Mrs. Edith May, acting librarian, who came to us on April 15th as assistant librarian, and two library assistants working two days a week, Miss Anne Hubley and Miss Florence Holmes. We trust that this skeleton of a staff will have some flesh added to it in the near future, and that next year the Society can rejoice in its robust proportions.

Mr. Shelley's new job is described in the August 25th *Information Bulletin* of the Library of Congress, which gives some indication of the value set upon his services in Washington:

Personnel

Manuscripts historian Fred Shelley has been appointed Head of the newly established Presidential Papers Section in the Manuscript Division. This section has been established to prepare for microfilming and to index the Library's 23 collections of Presidential papers. Congress recently appropriated $100,000 for the initiation of this project. A native of Kansas, Mr. Shelley received his academic training at Kansas State Teachers College, Emporia, where he received the A. B. and B. S. degrees in 1940 and the M. S. degree in 1941, and he has completed 4 years of graduate study at the American University.

Mr. Shelley's wide experience in archival and library techniques and in editorial work was gained as a member of the staff of the Recent Manuscripts Section in the Manuscript Division from 1946 to 1950, as Librarian of the Maryland Historical Society for the following 5 years, as Librarian of the New Jersey Historical Society

from 1955 to 1958, and, since June 1958, as Head of the Reader Service Section in LC's Manuscript Division. He edited the *Maryland Historical Magazine* for 4 years (1951-55), and he compiled *A Guide to the Manuscripts Collection of the New Jersey Historical Society,* published in 1957.

Mr. Shelley's *Guide,* it may be added, has sold beyond our highest expectations. It has paid for itself in the first year of its existence and has opened countless avenues between the Society and the world at large. To outsiders, who might be interested in adding to our collections if they realized the value of what we already possess, many pages of the *Guide* should be eye-openers; and it is to be hoped that many members of the Society will find opportunities of increasing their friends' vision in this agreeable way.

The Library has acquired a number of notable items during the year, perhaps the most remarkable being a collection of papers of Lindley M. Garrison, Vice-Chancellor of New Jersey (1904-1913) and Secretary of War in President Wilson's Cabinet, the papers dating from the period 1913-16. Our Library joined the Rutgers University Library, the New Jersey State Library, Columbia University, and Yale University in the important project of microfilming the papers of New Jersey's first governor, William Livingston; these are owned by the Massachusetts Historical Society, and we now have a positive of that microfilm. The National Society of the Daughters of the Barons of Runnemede paid for the restoration of the will (dated 1685) of John Fenwick, founder of West Jersey, and we should be more than pleased to have other such offers. The Woman's Branch has been generous as usual, and has given us, among other things, a rare roster of New Jersey troops made just after the French and Indian Wars (1764), listing the names of nine deserters. A valuable collection of papers was discovered in a trunk in our headquarters: they turned out to be letters written to H. N. Congar of Newark between the years 1860 and 1893 and containing new material on Republican politics and politicians in New Jersey and elsewhere during that period. It should also be mentioned that the Library acquired, through the generosity of a single donor, several hundred pieces relating to the Crane family, including MSS., printed items, photographs, and a book kept by a lady doctor in Boonton, New Jersey, between the years 1874 and 1900, recording in some detail the facts concerning the births of some 605 babies in the Boonton area. Since, according to Mr. Shelley, the authorities in Boonton have no record of these births, and no other record of them has been discovered, it will be seen that Dr. Marietta Woodruff's book is of more than curious interest.

Statistics of work accomplished in the Library for the past Society year show an upward trend that is not only encouraging but, in view of the decreased personnel, downright amazing. Manuscript cards totaling 4,715

were made and filed, as against 2,218 the year before; 258 broadsides were indexed, as against 11; 683 broadside cards were made and filed, as against 423; the number of persons who used the library climbed to 1,476, above 1,358 in the preceding year and 1,239 in the year before that. Much of this showing was made possible by the expenditure of time, energy and general know-how on the part of Mrs. Joseph Greene, who is an old hand at helping the Society out of difficulty, and Miss Helen Simms. One of the gratifying results of these combined labors has been the usefulness of the library to students, working on their theses, from such widely dispersed institutions as Catholic University, Yale, Harvard and Rutgers, Pratt Institute and Swarthmore College.

The library's need of money is implicit in this report and perhaps need not be labored. We operate on the pitiful budget of $750 for the purchase of books and MSS. while sales af rare items flash by out of our reach. Meanwhile, we do what we can with the book sale and hope for more benefactors of great (or even moderate) wealth. At the moment we are in acute need of a book truck and would settle for that. In the long run, however, we shall need more substantial help if the Library is to keep its standards high, enthusiasm in its spirit, and flesh on its bones.

RICHARD V. LINDABURY, *Chairman.*

DONORS TO THE LIBRARY

American Institute of Social Science
American Jewish Historical Society
American Legion, West Hoboken, Post 14
Rodney Armstrong, Librarian, Phillips-Exeter Academy
Dr. Alvin K. Aster
Mrs. Stevens Baird
Moses Bigelow, 3rd
Bloomfield Free Public Library
Fred Bogert
Edison Bowen
Mrs. Walter L. Bush
Roger Butterfield
J. Nelson Carter
Mrs. William E. Colford
Lewis D. Cook
Ross K. Cook
Senator Robert C. Crane
George W. Crowe
Daughters of Founders and Patriots of America, N. J. State Chapter
John J. De Mott
Albert L. De Witt
Willard L. De Yoe
W. Mahlon Dickerson
Miss Frances M. Dickinson
Dr. E. M. Dodd
Walter N. Eastburn
Albert S. Eggerton, Jr.
W. W. Eisenhart
Mrs. C. Louis Foster
Howard C. Francis
Harry O. H. Frelinghuysen
Mrs. Joseph S. Frelinghuysen
James L. Garabrant
James L. Garabrant and Miss Florence Garabrant
Edward J. Grassmann
Joseph Grodis
Hannah Arnett Chapter, D.A.R., of East Orange
Robert Hoppock

Miss Anne J. Hubley
Huguenot Society of New Jersey
Lee Powers Hynes
Institute of Early American History and Culture
Insurance Company of North American Companies
R. Jennings
Rudolph Johnson
Charles M. Jones
Sidney Katz
Mrs. Alice H. Kennedy
Misses Helen and Mary A. Kilborne
Mrs. Ruloff F. Kip
Mrs. Albert F. Koehler
Hon. Harry W. Lindeman
Frank I. Liveright
Miss Mabel C. Logan
F. H. Ludlow
W. C. McGinnis
William L. Maude
Memphis, Tennessee, Public Library
Metuchen, N. J., Reformed Church
Miss Flora E. Mindnich
Mrs. W. Edwin Moffett
Montclair Art Museum
Charles E. Moreau
Mount Vernon Ladies' Association of the Union
National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution
National Society of the Daughters of the Barons of Runnemede
Nutley Historical Society
Orange (N. J.) Public Library
Mrs. John V. C. Parker
Peapack-Gladstone School, Fourth Grade History Class
Mrs. Stuyvesant Pierrepont
Mahlon Pitney
Mrs. Frank A. Polkinghorn
Mr. & Mrs. Frank A. Polkinghorn
William Y. Pryor
Mrs. Hugh Pugh
Mrs. Harry S. Fitz Randolph
Fred B. Rogers, M.D.
Rutgers University Press
Sauls Lithograph Company, Inc.
Samuel Phillips Savage, Jr.
Savings Banks' Association of New Jersey
Mrs. Stanley Schultz
Mrs. William F. Sheehan
Mrs. Anne H. Sidwa
Miss Helen M. Sims
Society of Colonial Wars in the State of New Jersey
Society of the Cincinnati in the State of New Jersey
Thomas W. Streeter
A. M. Sullivan
Mr. & Mrs. W. Clark Symington
Earl J. Tower
W. E. Townley
Frank P. Townsend
Mrs. Wilma Van Urk
Mrs. Thomas L. Ward
George W. Winans
Mrs. Herbert T. Windsor
Miss Helen M. Wright

REPORT OF THE MUSEUM COMMITTEE

THREE of the most important events of the year are: establishment of criteria for the museum collections; appraisal and inventory of the collections; and a detailed inventory of and basic research on the painting collection.

The new general criteria, approved by the Board of Trustees, establish

guides for the development and control of the various collections of the Society according to a system of priorities. The appraisal of Captain Ivan Jacobs last December, paid for by the subscription of several members, gives both replacement value and identifying information for the collections. Taken together, the criteria and the appraisal make possible stronger control of our collections. Last spring a start was made in reviewing them to develop more properly our holdings.

Bruce Farquhar, first as a Museum Assistant then as Museum Fellow —thanks to an anonymous gift to cover his stipend—was able to correlate information on our several hundred paintings, the start of which we hope will eventually become a printed, illustrated catalogue. Termination of Mr. Farquhar's employment in July is regretted.

The work of putting our house in better order took priority, but one large and most popular exhibition, "New Jersey Transportation," was opened in the third-floor galleries in October 1957. Another exhibit, "Life in New Jersey," which just recently opened and is hung largely in the auditorium, is really evidence of the new policy of showing as much as possible of our collections rather than leaving them unseen in our inadequately-equipped storage rooms. The additions and rearrangement of the paintings in the Victorian Gallery, hanging them in the manner of the period from floor to ceiling, and the use of the auditorium for exhibiting purposes are results of this change in policy.

For our first show of this new season, "Falls of the Passaic," we are deeply indebted to Harold J. Dahl and George Connor and to others who have lent their prints and paintings so generously. This exhibition is distinguished by being the first in the history of the Society to have a printed, illustrated catalogue. It opened what we now refer to as the Little Gallery, to be used hereafter for small special exhibitions including material such as maps from the library. To observe the seventy-fifth anniversary of the *Newark Evening News* we are showing "Lute Pease's Choice" of his cartoons throughout the long career of that distinguished cartoonist with that paper from 1914 to 1952. Mr. Pease kindly selected and lent the drawings from his own collection. Both these shows were mounted very ably by Howard W. Wiseman, who also worked with several ladies who volunteered to set up an exhibition of costumes from 1805 to 1925 as part of "Life in New Jersey." Such exhibits as these will be shown throughout each season, within the limits of the very small staff of the Society.

A number of distinguished gifts were made during the year: The United New Jersey Railroad and Canal Company presented various portraits and three important oil paintings of early steamboats on the Delaware, shown near Burlington; W. Clark Symington gave a handsome water color of 1822 of the waterfront of Perth Amboy; Mr. and Mrs. Symington gave several pieces of early American glass and Mrs. Joseph S. Frelinghuysen enlaged our glass collection several times by contributing

approximately twenty pieces, all of which were examined by Miss Helen McKearin and Melvin Billups; Dr. Alvin K. Aster presented about four thousand negatives of scenes of historic spots and Dr. Samuel Berg is carrying on a program of building up the photographic collection of the Society by printing from negatives made available; Richard Herpers also gave a photographic collection of early Newark scenes. Many other carefully chosen gifts were received; we can only list their donors with gratitude.

Mrs. Frederick Frelinghuysen, *Chairman.*

DONORS TO THE MUSEUM

Miss Edna Ambrose, East Orange
Dr. Alvin K. Aster, Madison
Miss Isabelle I. Barbier, Glen Ridge
Dr. Samuel Berg, Newark
Hon. John O. Bigelow, Newark
Carlton M. Bourne, West Falmouth, Mass.
Irving F. Brown, Maplewood
Mrs. Albert Catalane, West Orange
Mrs. Donald Curry, Montclair
Mrs. Mabel Pierson Daniels, Montclair
Eleutherian Mills-Hagley Foundation, Wilmington, Del.
Mrs. R. W. Foard, Whippany
Edward P. Francis, Livingston
Frelinghuysen Foundation, Convent Station
Mrs. Joseph S. Frelinghuysen, Far Hills
T. Bergen Gaddis, East Orange
Miss Florence Garabrant, East Orange
James L. Garabrant, East Orange
Mrs. Constance N. Gatchell, Upper Montclair
Mrs. Alexander Hamilton, East Orange
Montagu Hankin, Summit
Dr. Thomas W. Harvey, Orange
W. Burtis Havens, Toms River
Mrs. Arthur Hecht, Oceanport
Richard Herpers, Short Hills
Howard Savings Institution, Newark
Miss Anne J. Hubley, East Orange
Mrs. Albert Lister, Livingston
Mrs. William Bernard Littell, Morristown
Miss Isabel L. Meeker, Newark
George Meister, Irvington
Miss Flora E. Mindnich, Newark
The Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul, Minn.
W. J. Monahan, Newark
National Newark and Essex Banking Company, Newark
Mrs. William H. Osborne, Jr., Maplewood
Miss Cora J. Pierson, Montclair
Mr. and Mrs. Frank A. Polkinghorn, Verona
Mrs. Hugh Pugh, Burlington
Mrs. Russell B. Rankin, Newark
Reading Company, Philadelphia
Mrs. Ada Campbell Rose, Moorestown
Rutgers University, New Brunswick
Saint Andrews Episcopal Church, Lincoln Park
Estate of Miss Antoinette Quinby Scudder, Newark
Miss Helen M. Sims, East Orange
Miss Jessie M. Slee, Baltimore, Md.

Sleepy Hollow Restoration, Inc., Tarrytown, N. Y.
Ira A. Stark, New York City
Mr. and Mrs. W. Clark Symington, Newark
Hon. Thomas T. Taber, Madison
United New Jersey Railroad and Canal Company, Trenton
C. L. Wallace, East Orange, New Jersey

REPORT OF THE WOMAN'S BRANCH

In order to give a full picture of our efforts in the past year, one must have a bird's eye view of the activities of the main society. We start with a new president, Mr. H. O. H. Frelinghuysen, who in a comparatively short time has inspired us all with new fresh ideas and ambitions for the good of the Society. He is definitely *not* going to settle for second best. It is my feeling that we are really going places with him as our leader. Before he assumed the role of president, Mr. Frelinghuysen helped with the first N. J. dinner which was so successful that it is being repeated this year. At the dinner we had a tremendous representation from all parts of the state. Our only regret is that we have to charge so much for the tickets that some of our members feel unable to come—but since the object of it is to raise money to keep us alive, we have no choice.

At the instigation of the Woman's Branch, an inventory was made of the contents of the building for the first time. It is proving very valuable. Mrs. Hartshorne, Higgins, Symington, and I have followed up by cleaning house, a sort of gigantic classification, of getting "likes" together.

The Woman's Branch has had the Little Gallery and the Trustees Room painted so that our face is getting cleaner all the time.

Mrs. Frederick Frelinghuysen, *President.*

REPORT OF THE EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

Several changes affecting the magazine have occurred during the year. Newest and most important is the inauguration of a four-page newsletter, entitled the *New Jersey Messenger,* which is edited by the Society's director, Mr. Lunny. Its purpose is to provide a newsy contact with the members, informing them of current historical events and activities, with small articles and other tidbits of New Jersey historical interest. This in considerable degree, takes the place of the "Director's Diary," long a feature of the Proceedings, which has consequently been suspended. The first issue of the *Messenger,* published in September, has been enthusiastically received by the membership.

Departure of the Society's energetic and competent librarian, Mr. Shelley, has had its impact upon the magazine. He has freely given of every kind of help to the editor. In particular, he had recently accepted full responsibility for the department, "Of Books and Things." It is hoped that some means of continuing the latter can be developed.

Apart from the foregoing details, a description of the year's editorial

activities would be a tiresome carbon copy of that for earlier years—essentially, the laborious business of obtaining and preparing copy, planning the issue, reading the proofs, and following the job through the various stages of production. One of our problems has been to bring out the issues on time, and some progress in this direction has been made during the past year.

DONALD A. SINCLAIR, *Chairman.*

REPORT OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

YOUR corresponding secretary continues to receive only a few letters addressed to her as such. Most of the Society's letters of inquiry are sent direct to the library and are answered by our staff.

Perhaps one or two which came to me might interest you as they required some research. One concerned the requirement of the registration of Indians in the early part of the eighteenth century. In a volume written by William Nelson, the well-known historian and former corresponding secretary of this society,[1] it is stated that in 1755 the Indians of Bethel and "Crambury," New Jersey, appealed to the governor of the province for protection "from the danger of being destroyed by the English" and also by "Indians in the French interest." The Governor and his Council voted on December 3, 1755, that friendly Indians should be registered, and that books for that purpose be provided in the various counties named and placed in the hands of one or two magistrates in each county. The names of these magistrates were also given.[2] The names of the Indians, if they applied for protection, were to be entered in these books, with a description of their families, etc. The Indian made a "Solemn declaration of his fidelity to his Majesty and attachment to his Brother the English . . . " The magistrate being convinced of the sincerity of the applicant, was to give him a certificate, certifying that he had declared his fidelity and had been registered. Also the Indian was to receive a red ribbon to wear upon his head so that he would not be taken as an enemy by people of this province but as a friend. Any Indian not having such a certificate or ribbon should be taken before the justice of the peace and examined to prove he was not an enemy or spy. Whether or not this registration was ever carried out your secretary has not been able to ascertain. There are no such records in this society's library. If any still exist they might be in the county archives or in some private collections.

In connection with the Indians we were also asked about the Indian Reservation in Burlington County. Was it the first one in the United States? Our answer was *yes.* As you may know, by 1757 the numbers and condition of the Indians in the southern part of the state had greatly deteriorated and they expressed a desire to live together on one tract of land. They appealed to the legislature and in August, 1758, it agreed to pur-

[1]William Nelson, *The Indians of New Jersey, Their Origin and Development,* p. 116.
[2]*New Jersey Archives,* v.16, pp. 566-68.

chase three thousand acres of land in Edge Pillock, Evesham Township, Burlington County, for that purpose. Here the Indians lived together for a number of years. The tract was aptly called "Brotherton" by Governor Bernard. This, then, was the first Indian reservation in the United States.

Their numbers having declined by 1801, and having been invited by the Mohegans to join them in New Stockbridge, New York, they appealed to our state for financial aid for the expense of the trip. We responded to their appeal and they journeyed to New York. Later, in 1824, another request was made for help as they wished to go to Green Bay, Wisconsin, and again we aided them. Then later, in 1832, they desired to go further west and we continued to aid them. Thus our state has a good record for fair treatment of the Indians and they expressed their appreciation of it. An interesting and detailed account of all this can be found in one of our early PROCEEDINGS, written by Samuel Allinson.[3]

We were asked about the first air flight in America and its connection with New Jersey. This flight took place on January 9, 1793, 165 years ago, from Philadelphia. Here in the yard of the old Walnut Street prison and in the presence of George Washington and a large assembly of notables and with a band playing, Jean Pierre Blanchard, a Frenchman, ascended in his hydrogen balloon, carrying with him a letter of introduction from George Washington. This, incidently was the first airborne letter in the new world. The balloon reached an altitude of 5812 feet and traveled 15 miles in 46 minutes. It landed in a woods eastward of Woodbury, New Jersey, where some men, and women too, came running to see him. He was at first viewed with suspicion as he could not speak English but his letter from Washington reassured them and they helped him pack his balloon in a cart to return to Philadelphia.

The following concerning air flights at that period, although not pertaining to New Jersey, is most interesting at this time. The first air voyage in the world took place in Paris August 27, 1783. Benjamin Franklin was our representative at the French capital at that time and was most enthusiastic over these balloon ascensions. He wrote, "It appears to be a discovery of great importance and what may possibly give a turn to human events . . . " and he described what could happen to a country at a time of War? This land was originally part of the Peapack Patent and covered all thousand men descending from the clouds might do an infinite deal of mischief before a force could be brought together to repel them." George Washington wrote to a friend, "I have a newspaper account of the air balloons. The tales related of them are marvelous and lead me to expect that our friends at Paris in a time will come flying through the air instead of ploughing the ocean to get to America . . . " I wonder what he would think of our jet planes!

An inquiry was made concerning the Axtell tract of land in Somerset county. Who owned it later and was it confiscated during the Revolutionary

[3]N.J.H.S. *Proceedings,* 2nd series, v.4, pp. 33-50.

War? This land was originally part of the Peapack Patent and covered all the country bounded by the Lamington River, the north branch of the Raritan River and the road leading from Bernardsville to Lamington village. It comprised 2433 acres and was sold in June, 1726, to Major Daniel Axtell for £1,214 New York money, which at that time had a present U.S. coin value of $3.14¼ a pound, so the best land in New Jersey sold for $1.56 an acre!

Major Daniel Axtell was the son of a Daniel Axtell of England who had been prominent in the Cromwellian army and was later executed. The son fled to the West Indies and there made a fortune; later, coming to the American colonies to invest it, he purchased the above property. After his death his son William came to New Jersey to dispose of this tract of land. He visited New York and there met and married the daughter of Abraham De Peyster. He then built a fine house in that city and lived there for some time. In 1754 he returned to England but came again to America and settled in Flatbush, Long Island, and at the outbreak of the Revolution sided with the patriotic cause. However, after the Battle of Long Island and the defeat of the Americans he changed his allegiance and became a partisan of the British cause. He became a British colonel and eventually returned to England to live. While here he attempted to secure his properties by settling them upon an adopted daughter whom he had married to Major Giles of the American army. Also while here prior to the war during the years 1740 to 1760 he sold many hundreds of acres to families who settled in that locality. Among them being the Van de Veers, Van Dorens, McDowells, Nevius, Teeples, Straits, McCreas, and other well-known Somerset County families. No mention can be found of a confiscation of any of his land in New Jersey. Perhaps it was all sold by that time. One reference did state in October, 1779, New York State confiscated his real and personal property in that state. No detailed record was given which might mention his New Jersey property.

Genealogical letters received were few and no great amount of information was given in detail.

MAUD H. GREENE, *Corresponding Secretary.*

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BULL'S HEAD DECORATIONS ON NEWARK BUILDINGS. *Top:* House on 14th Avenue, south side, near S. 10th Street. *Below:* Cornice on brick apartment house, 36-38 7th Avenue, near High Street. *(Photos by Ione M. Sonn, 1948 and 1950.)*